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CALGARY, ALBERTA, APRIL 16, 1924

No. 13

Alberta Government Empowered to Give Pool Million Dollars Guarantee for Purchase of Elevators

Pool Must Have Paid 15 Per Cent. Before Government Guarantee Can Become Effective—Trustees Decide to Take Steps to Acquire Elevators

EDMONTON, April 12.—Empowering the Provincial Government to give guarantees to the extent of one million dollars if necessary, in respect to the purchase money, with interest, which may be required for the acquirement of elevators by the Alberta Co-operative Wheat Producers, Ltd., important additions and amendments of the act to incorporate this company were made today in committee of the whole, on motion by J. E. Brownlee, Attorney-General, who was in charge of the bill. It is provided that the company must have first paid at least 15 per cent. of the purchase price of any elevator or elevators which it may be found desirable to acquire, before the Government guarantee can become effective. It is also stipulated that the period for payment of the balance of the unpaid purchase money shall not exceed 20 years. The bill was also amended today to empower the Government to guarantee to the banks during 1924 a margin of security of 15 per cent., or otherwise, above the amount of the advances made by the banks to the Pool. This is a similar guarantee to that of last season.

CREATION OF AN ELEVATOR RESERVE

In presenting the amendments Mr. Brownlee announced that the Trustees, at a meeting held on the previous day, had decided to take steps to acquire elevators. As more than 35,000,000 bushels would pass through the Pool, this meant that the reserve built up this year, if one cent a bushel were set aside, would exceed \$350,000. The average cost of an elevator was \$14,000. This reserve was apart from the reserve set aside for financing the operations of the Pool.

The Attorney-General declared that the new legislation would assist the Pool Trustees in making their financial arrangements with elevator concerns for the handling of the crop of the coming season. The Pool was now in a much better position to make terms. When it drew up its original contracts with the grain companies, it had still to secure contracts from the farmer.

There was a possibility, however, said Mr. Brownlee, that when negotiations for 1924 were undertaken, the resistance might have stiffened, as there was a very vigorous contest in progress between those who believed in the Pool system, and others, heavily interested in the grain business, who, while they were as a rule personally honorable men, did not desire to see the new system succeed.

The guarantee in respect to elevators, the Attorney-General explained, would become an indirect liability on the Province. The Province might take such security as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council might determine. The payment of 15 per cent. by the Pool would be equivalent to four or five years' depreciation on any elevators acquired, and the Government would have the right, under its guarantee, to take

A summary of the provisions of the Bill to incorporate the Alberta Co-operative Wheat Producers, Ltd., was given in the last issue of "The U. F. A." The bill was finally passed with amendments, on Saturday last.

any elevators over before the term of such depreciation had expired, should this ever be found necessary. If the Pool should decide to acquire elevators, it was probable that they would purchase some of those

already built.

NOT MORE THAN TEN YEARS' PURCHASE

"I understand," said Mr. Brownlee, "that the Trustees will not extend the term of purchase for any elevators which they may decide to acquire, to more than ten years."

Discussing the guarantee of a 15 per cent. margin which the Government is authorized to give to the banks, above the advances made for the financing of the sale of the 1924 crop, the Minister said that it was not anticipated that any difficulty would occur, but it was possible that for this one additional season, it might be desirable to give a guarantee similar to that of last year. It did not in actual fact throw any liability upon the Province. The Government had power to fix the maximum initial payment, and the wheat was security for their guarantee.

"I may say," he added, "that when the Government gave their guarantee last year, they knew that the Wheat Pool had already contracted for the sale of more than 2,000,000 bushels of wheat at 97 cents, thus providing a margin of over \$400,000, more than enough to meet the guarantee." Mr. Brownlee also pointed out that the Government called for a statement of sales from the Pool, before sanctioning the increase from 75 cents to 85 cents which had been made on wheat delivered to the Pool.

Another amendment adopted on Saturday gives the right to a member to assign his interest in grain delivered to the Pool, without registration of the assignment. This will facilitate the obtaining of advances on participation certificates by farmers.

The three most important amendments are given below:

"20. Upon any bank or banks during the year 1924 entering into an agreement with the corporation for the purpose of granting a line of credit to the corporation on the security of wheat or evidences of title to wheat handled by the corporation for the purpose of providing for the initial payments to its members in respect of wheat grown in the year 1924, delivered to it by such members, the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may authorize the Provincial Treasurer to execute any instrument on behalf of the Province guaranteeing to such bank or banks that the corporation shall maintain at all times a margin of such security of fifteen per cent. or such other percentage as may from time to time be agreed upon and approved by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, over and above the amount of the advances made by such bank or banks, and that such margin shall be maintained at all times in the market value of the wheat security, and further may agree to pay any such bank on demand any sum or sums which may from time

(Continued on page 2)

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ALBERTA GOVERNMENT EMPOWERED TO GIVE POOL MILLION DOLLARS GUARANTEE FOR PURCHASE OF ELEVATORS

(Continued from page 1)

to time be required to make up any deficiency in the said margin.

"Provided, that before any such guarantee or agreement is entered into the maximum amount of the initial payment to be made by the corporation upon any member's grain and the amount of the margin which the corporation shall maintain as aforesaid shall be approved by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, and, so long as such guarantee remains in force, the corporation shall not, without the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council make any initial payment in excess of the maximum so fixed or approved, and shall maintain the said margin at all times at not less than the minimum so fixed."

"21. The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may authorize the Provincial Treasurer to guarantee on behalf of the Province the due payment of the unpaid balance of the purchase money with interest payable in respect of the purchase of any elevator or elevators by the corporation; and may authorize the Provincial Treasurer on behalf of the Province to execute any instrument for that purpose;

"Provided always that—

"(1) The corporation shall have first paid at least 15 per cent. of the purchase price of such elevator or elevators;

"(2) The period for payment of the balance of the unpaid purchase money shall not exceed twenty years;

"(3) The total amount of the liability of the Province in respect of guarantees entered into pursuant to this section shall not at any time exceed one million dollars."

"22. (1) In the event of the Provincial Treasurer being called upon to make any payment in respect of any guarantee of agreement by this act provided for, the Provincial Treasurer shall be subrogated as against the corporation to all rights, powers, remedies and securities of the person entitled to the benefit of such guarantee or agreement, and no payment by the Provincial Treasurer shall affect any liability of the corporation, or release any security given by the corporation in respect thereof, but such liability and security shall notwithstanding any such payment remain and continue in full force and effect and enforceable by the Provincial Treasurer against the corporation.

"(2) In the event of it becoming necessary to pay any sum or sums of money under any guarantee or agreement by this act provided for, the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may raise by way of loan such sum or sums of money by such means as may seem proper and convenient, and may apply the same in fulfilment of the said guarantee or agreement according to the terms thereof, without any further or other appropriation than is hereby provided."

USE SOCIAL MEETINGS TO GET NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. E. Hallum, U. F. W. A. director for Victoria, has written the following letter to U. F. W. A. Locals in that constituency:

"Now that we have commenced another year in our history and are looking forward to a better year, there are some points that I should like the Locals to keep in mind. The first is that the life of the farm woman is bound up with all that affects our social and economic life. For this reason I should like to urge you to keep those things always before you in the work of the Locals.

"It is a good plan to arrange for little social gatherings and use them as a means of getting new members. Do not lose faith in your organization if the attendance and other conditions in your Local are not just what you would like. Keep up your courage and 'peg on!' It is always the faithful few who can be relied on to carry out the work."

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EDITORIAL

From the standpoint of the primary producers it is probable that the legislation passed at the session of the Assembly just closed will prove to be the most important in the history of the Province. The Act respecting Co-operative Marketing Associations, the Act for the Incorporation of the Alberta Co-operative Wheat Producers, Ltd., containing provisions for guarantees up to a total of a million dollars, should the Pool decide to acquire elevators, the Act to Establish a Farm Loans Board, are of special significance.

We hope to deal in our next issue with some items of legislation, bearing directly on the farming industry, which have not hitherto been adequately described.

There is less partizanship, and more independence, and more individual initiative on the part of members, and more intelligent and thorough discussion of legislation, in the present Legislative Assembly than in any of its predecessors. The spirit of partysim has not been eliminated, but it has never been weaker.

The Morning Albertan, in an editorial on April 10th, declared, in discussing the Cow Bill: "At a critical time there was a change of Government, and Mr. Hoadley, with his indifference, followed Mr. Marshall, with his vigor and enthusiasm. The result was inevitable. The collections were not made."

Apart from the very strong partizan bias and unfairness which appear to be displayed in this editorial, appearing in a newspaper owned and controlled by one of the Independent members for Calgary, the Albertan in this matter seems to have been grossly misled. We invite the Albertan to publish the facts as revealed in a return received by members of the Legislature during the session just closed, which gives detailed figures of the collections by years. The Albertan might also inquire into the facts relating to the agricultural schools, and then publish them. We cannot deal with this matter fully in the current issue, in the space available. But in fairness and decency the Albertan should publish the facts and figures. We are confident that it will do so. Failure to do so would be a very grave injustice to the Minister of Agriculture.

In a recent speech in the Legislature, R. G. Reid declared that the Dominion Government had an unquestionable legal right to override Provincial legislation. He pointed out, however, that in the application for disallowance of the Mineral Rights Tax Act which was being pressed at Ottawa by certain powerful corporations, it had not been suggested that the act was ultra vires. The strictly legal right of the Provincial Assembly to pass it was not challenged.

At the same time the Provincial Treasurer commented on the fact that certain leading members of the Liberal party in the Assembly had advanced reasons why the act should be

disallowed. They did not challenge its legality, but contended that the Dominion Government would interfere because, they said, the act was "unjust" and "confiscatory". Under the circumstances, the attitude of these Liberal members constituted some ground for concern, and the Treasurer gave warning that the Alberta Government would resist to the utmost any suggestion that a Government at Ottawa might determine whether Provincial taxation were sound or unsound.

Mr. Reid's position was clear. The power of the Dominion Government was not in question. They could disallow the legislation if they wished, even though it were intra vires of the Province. But, quoting the late Sir Allan Aylesworth, the Provincial Treasurer showed that such interference with legislation which the Provincial Government had a constitutional power to enact would be contrary to the spirit of the constitution as interpreted by this eminent jurist, who had been closely associated with the party which is now in power at Ottawa.

When, a few days later, the Lethbridge Herald declared that Mr. Reid's warning was "blather"; that "if the Federal Government chooses to interfere with the Mineral Rights Tax, of which Mr. Reid makes so much, it will only be in accordance with whatever clearly defined authority it has in the matter;" and added that Mr. Reid's speech "would be of no effect if the Federal Government has the right to interfere." "The U. F. A.", having in view this declaration from a Liberal newspaper that the Liberal Government would interfere if it could, asked whether the assertion were based on definite information from Ottawa. Combined with the Liberal insistence in the Legislature that the act would be disallowed the threat demanded notice.

But in the issue of April 4th the Herald reversed its former position, suggesting that no Federal Government would dare to interfere with Provincial autonomy, and that "only when legislation is considered to be ultra vires is it disallowed."

In other words, instead of insisting that the Dominion Government would interfere if it could, this paper declared that the Dominion Government should not interfere unless it were compelled to do so. That is the argument of Mr. Reid himself, and it is gratifying to find that the editor of the Herald, whose knowledge of Canadian history and the Canadian Constitution is undoubtedly a wide one, should now have come to the same conclusion as that of the Provincial Treasurer. It is gratifying to learn this even though the Herald, with a singular felicity, insisted that Mr. Reid, who had emphasized the position taken by Sir Allan Aylesworth, and challenged the reactionary views of the leading Liberals in the Assembly who declared that the act would be disallowed, was following in the footsteps of "Sir Robert Rogers."

The position taken by certain Liberal members of the Assembly, who apparently favor Federal interference with legislation which is now intra vires of the Province closely resembles the position of Sir Clifford Sifton. They suggest that the Dominion might properly disallow the legislation after it has been passed. Sir Clifford wants an amendment to the British North America Act to prevent the Provincial Legislatures from passing it. His influence in Canadian public life is at all times exerted in favor of corporate wealth.

The reference of the Home Bank affair to the Parliamentary Committee on Banking and Commerce for investigation is a very important achievement. It is to be hoped also, that the inquiry into the basis, function and control of financial credit, which began last session, will be continued. We are satisfied that very definite efforts will be made to suppress it. But in the public interest it should be continued.

Assembly Unanimously Authorizes Alberta Government to Accept Resources Offer

---Urges Need for Federal Action to Extend Northern Railways

Fourth Session of Fifth Legislature of Province of Alberta Prorogued April 12th—Farm Loans Bill and Bill Respecting Co-operative Marketing Associations Carried

(Staff Correspondence)

Pending Negotiations, Capital Outlay on Railways Halted

V. W. Smith Makes Frank Statement to Assembly on Railway Situation—Needs Urgent but Financial Problem Bars the Way

MONDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, April 7.—No Provincial Government railway extensions will be carried out until negotiations with Transcontinental lines have been completed, V. W. Smith, Minister of Railways, announced in the Legislature this evening, during discussion of the estimates of capital expenditure of the Department of Railways. The capital estimates for the year total in this Department \$1,725,735, while last year's actual expenditure was \$1,231,326. During the day the Assembly discussed the Workmen's Compensation Act amendments at length in committee, and various other measures. The capital estimates of the Department of Public Works totalling \$1,528,453, of the Telephones Branch, totalling \$563,661, and the supplementary estimates for 1923, totalling \$632,211, were passed. Some time was spent in debate on the subject of the placing of the Dominion Highways Grant in general revenue.

SMITH'S STATEMENT TO THE ASSEMBLY

Mr. Smith's statement on the railway question, setting forth in detail the reasons why no extensions will be undertaken, was in the following terms:

"The Government has, during the last year, received several large delegations and also numerous petitions urging extensions to the Provincial railways. After considering these requests it is necessary to examine not only the immediate demands, but also to estimate the program of extension and expenditure required to meet the reasonable requirements of the people in the districts affected. The following extensions are urged:

- "1. Lacombe and Northwestern—extension immediately required—fifteen (15) miles. Approximate cost \$375,000. While this extension will bring this railway within reach of the majority of the settlers in this part of the Province, the line will not be complete or adequately serve the people of this part of the Province until completed to Edmonton, a further distance of sixty-nine (69) miles, involving an expenditure of at least \$1,725,000, without considering the difficulties and expense of effecting adequate terminal facilities in Edmonton.
- "2. From a point at or near Busby on the Edmonton, Dunvegan & British Columbia railway, westerly, an immediate extension

A total of 55 bills were considered by the Legislative Assembly during the session which closed on Saturday last. Most of this legislation has been outlined in "The U. F. A." A number of private bills which are of interest almost entirely to the cities have been discussed very briefly. The act to eliminate the constituency of Clearwater reduces the number of Provincial constituencies to sixty.

of twenty-five (25) miles is suggested at a cost of \$625,000, but a further extension of twenty-five (25) miles will be required to give adequate service to the territory, involving a further cost of approximately \$625,000.

"3. An extension to the Central Canada railway from the present terminal ten (10) miles—approximate cost \$250,000.

"4. Extension to the Edmonton, Dunvegan & British Columbia railway to Grande Prairie west ten (10) miles—approximate cost \$250,000.

WHAT IS INVOLVED IN UNDERTAKINGS

"The needs of the people in the several territories affected are equally urgent and if the Province has to undertake to meet these requirements for transportation facilities, it will be seen that a program must be undertaken involving an expenditure for immediate extension of \$1,600,000, with a further program of extension work involving an additional \$2,350,000.

"The great financial burden which the Province is carrying through the financing of these railways, is the principal cause of the inability to balance our budget from year to year. We have at the end of 1923 invested in these railways:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Guaranteed securities | \$17,093,700.00 |
| Loans for reconditioning and defaulted interest | 13,221,300.75 |
| Total | \$30,315,000.75 |

BURDEN IS NOW HEAVY ONE

"The interest on the guaranteed securities amounting to \$772,085 per year, is raised through the sale of Government bonds and loaned to the railways to pay the defaulted interest, and immediately the carrying charges against these advances become a charge against the revenue of the Province. At the end of 1923 these advances amounted to \$13,221,300.75, the interest on which at 6 per cent. per annum amounts to \$793,287.04, which accounts for more than the estimated deficit on the budget for this year. This situation is going on and on year after year with an added burden of nearly \$100,000 each succeeding year.

"A consideration of these figures will indicate what a serious charge upon the treasury of the Province the Provincial railways have become, and the extent to which the financial problems of the Province would be relieved if some satisfactory disposition of the lines can be made. I am drawing the attention of the Assembly to this so that the members may be well advised and will fully realize the necessity for the strictest economy in expenditure of public money for further railway extensions.

HOPES OF AGREEMENT ARE ENTERTAINED

"Certain negotiations have already been undertaken by the Government with the Transcontinental railways with respect to the Lacombe & North Western railway. The early termination of the agreement between the Canadian Pacific railway and the other interests involved for the maintenance and operation of the Edmonton, Dunvegan & British Columbia and Central Canada railways, makes it necessary that the Government should immediately undertake negotiations for the disposition of this line.

"While recognizing fully the needs of the settlers in the various districts affected, the Government is compelled to the conclusion that no further capital expenditure should be made for railway extensions until, as a result of the negotiations which will be undertaken this year by the Government, the future of these lines has been more clearly determined."

MacLACHLAN EXPRESSES DISAPPOINTMENT

Keen disappointment that the Busby branch would not be undertaken was expressed by George MacLachlan, U. F. A. (Pembina), while S. G. Tobin, Liberal (Leduc), regretted that the Lacombe and North Western extensions would not be carried out. George Mills was equally disappointed that northern construction would not be proceeded with.

During the day Perren Baker called attention to certain misstatements which had been made, he said, in the columns of the Medicine Hat News, to the effect that school grants were being further reduced this year.

The second reading of the bill to Incorporate the Alberta Co-operative Wheat Producers, Ltd., was carried. Mr. Boyle said he thought the principles of the bill sound, but one or two features of the bill were not satisfactory.

SECOND READING OF COMPENSATION BILL

Speaking on the second reading of the Workmen's Compensation Act amendments, which showed smaller increases than had originally been proposed, Alex. Ross, Minister of Public Works and Labor, said that the industries affected by the act, throughout the Province as a whole, would be called upon to pay in insurance an additional \$126,000 annually to provide for the increases, and for recapitalization this year, and \$82,000 in succeeding years. So far as coal was concerned the increased assessment represented three-quarters of a cent a ton.

CROSS AMAZED THAT AMOUNTS REDUCED

C. W. Cross, Liberal (Edson), expressed great surprise that the increases proposed were so small, and regretted that the compromise which had been made, had involved a serious reduction in the amounts. The bill was opposed by

R. C. Marshall, Liberal (Calgary), who contended that the increases involved increased charges to the consumer. Mr. Marshall disagreed with a statement of Mr. Cross, that the Saskatchewan act was better from the workman's standpoint than the Alberta act. Mr. Marshall recommended that the act should be held over for one year.

COST IN SASKATCHEWAN AND IN ALBERTA

F. J. White, Labor (Calgary), quoted figures to show that Ontario gave 66 2-3 per cent. of average earnings in compensation, with a maximum of over \$1,300; and British Columbia 62½ per cent., with a maximum of over \$1,200, while the amendments before the Assembly called for 62½ per cent. and a maximum of only \$1,140 in Alberta. Mr. White also quoted Saskatchewan figures in support of his contention that the cost to that Province is greater than in Alberta. In the coal industry the cost of compensation last year, he said, was 6½ cents a ton in Alberta, and 16½ cents in Saskatchewan. The member asked the Assembly whether it considered that the children of men killed in industry could live on less than the children of soldiers killed overseas.

J. C. Bowen, Liberal (Edmonton), said that the bill should not go through unless it were made to apply to farming, as well as other industries. He thought it unfortunate that the bill should have been brought in at this time. Dr. Stewart, Lethbridge, read telegrams from various companies protesting against the increases, and announced his intention to vote against the second reading.

The bill was strongly supported by W. M. Davidson, Independent (Calgary), W. G. Johnston, Labor (Medicine Hat), P. M. Christophers, Labor (Rocky Mountain), and W. H. Shield, U. F. A. (Macleod), while Jos. Dechene, Liberal (Beaver River), and J. R. Boyle, Mrs. McClung and Stanley Tobin were opposed. Mr. Davidson believed that agriculture should be included, but if it were not included, that was no argument against its application in other industries. Mr. Johnston pointed out that workmen had given up their common law rights to come under the provisions of the act. The prices charged by manufacturers were not just what they had to charge, but "all that the traffic will bear."

"It is surprising to see how acute an interest the manufacturers are taking in the interests of the farmers at this time," remarked Mr. Christophers, in reference to the literature sent out on this subject, and delegations of manufacturers who had appeared before the Agricultural Committee. Alberta, said Mr. Christophers, was lagging behind other Provinces.

BOYLE AND THE FARMER MEMBERS

Mr. Boyle suggested that the increases would be considerable enough to hurt the farmers, and taunted farmer members with their attitude in the matter, though he did not quote any figures showing in what manner or to what extent the cost of commodities to the farmer would be increased.

Mr. Shield believed that eventually the farmers themselves would voluntarily adopt the scheme for their own protection as it was the cheapest kind of insurance against accident. The member remarked that the manufacturers, when asked if they would be prepared to revert

to the system under which injured workmen could claim damages under the common law, said they would prefer not.

On second reading of the bill to establish a Farm Loans Board, moved by R. G. Reid, Provincial Treasurer, J. C. Bowen spoke against the measure, and Mr. Boyle said he would vote for it if the Government were prepared to accept the responsibility.

Some time was spent on Captain Pearson's bill respecting the rights and priorities of landlords and tenants. The Livestock Encouragement Act amendments passed committee.

Greenfield Submits Resolution on the Resources Question

Assembly Agreed That Offer for Immediate Transfer Should Be Accepted
—Unanimous Resolution on Railway Policy

TUESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, April 8.—Adoption by the Legislative Assembly of an agreed resolution authorizing the Government, for the purpose of obtaining an immediate settlement of the question of the natural resources, to accept one of the two alternative offers of the Dominion Government for the transfer of these resources to the Province, will be the probable outcome of a debate this afternoon on this important topic. Following the moving of a Government resolution on the subject by Premier Greenfield, J. R. Boyle expressed his willingness to support the resolution, though he did not agree with every detail. He declared that this subject should on no account become a party issue, and suggested the appointment of a small committee to draft a resolution. Captain Robert Pearson, from the Independent benches, said that he would support the Government resolution. Stating that the Cabinet appreciated the evident desire of the representatives of all groups to meet on common ground, J. E. Brownlee said that the Government would be glad to confer with representatives of the Liberals, of the Independent benches, and of the other political party (Dr. Stewart, Independent Conservative), in regard to the resolution.

THE TWO ALTERNATIVE PLANS OF TRANSFER

The alternative proposals which the Dominion Government has intimated it is willing to accept, are, as outlined by Premier Greenfield, as follows:

(1) An accounting by an independent tribunal on the basis of receipts and expenditure from 1905; or

(2) The payment to the Province of the present subsidy in lieu of lands, amounting to \$562,500 per annum in three equal annual payments.

The Premier's resolution upon which the debate of the day took place, was in the following terms:

1. That the Government should continue its negotiations with the Dominion Government for the immediate transfer to the Province of its natural resources.

2. While reaffirming the belief that in any settlement the Province is justly entitled to compensation for resources alienated for purely Federal purposes, nevertheless this House is of the opinion that special consideration must be given to the

actual and potential value of the resources of this Province and the possibility of early extensive development and the necessity for Provincial control to ensure a speedy and full development of all resources.

3. Having regard to the foregoing, and the definite refusal of the Dominion Government to consider any compensation for resources alienated for purely Federal purposes, this House authorizes the Government, for the purpose of obtaining an immediate settlement of this important question, to accept the offer of the Dominion Government to transfer to the Province its resources on the basis of an accounting from 1905, subject to an agreement to be reached as to the terms of such accounting and the terms of the transfer; provided, however, that the Government is further authorized to accept such fixed sum to be paid by the Dominion to the Province, in lieu of such accounting, as it shall consider adequate after a further consideration of the probable result of such an accounting.

In moving the resolution, Premier Greenfield said he felt it was unnecessary to review the historical phases of the natural resources question, which had been previously discussed in the Assembly very fully. It was advisable, however, to present a fairly comprehensive review of the negotiations undertaken by the Government of the day. The Premier reminded the Assembly that in February, 1922, Premier Mackenzie King made the following two proposals to the Government:

(1) To at once transfer the unalienated resources to the Province without compensation, the present subsidy in lieu of lands to be discontinued, or

(2) An accounting as between the Dominion and the Province from the beginning by an independent tribunal, crediting the Province with all monies received by the Dominion and charging to the Province all outlay in relation to the management of the resources, any award by the tribunal to be binding on both sides.

Negotiations were entered into in April, 1922, between representatives of the three prairie Provinces and Premier King. In the outcome it became evident that "owing to the wide variation in the extent to which resources had already been alienated, and the great differences in the value and extent of resources remaining unalienated in the respective Provinces, there was no likelihood of the Governments of the three Provinces being able to arrive at a uniform basis of settlement. An understanding was reached between the representatives of the three Provinces participating in the conference that any one of them was free individually to enter into negotiations with the Government of Canada."

Premier Greenfield then described the negotiations conducted by the Alberta Government. The first offer mentioned was not acceptable to the Cabinet, the Governments of this Province "having at all times taken the position that the Province is entitled to compensation for resources alienated. The alternative proposal—settlement on the basis of an accounting—was very carefully considered."

ACCOUNTING WOULD PROVE LENGTHY PROCESS

Owing to the fact that the accounts of the Department of the Interior had always been kept by votes and services, and not by Provinces, it was realized that an accounting would probably prove a lengthy process, and at the suggestion of Premier King, an effort was made to find a basis for settlement that would eliminate the necessity for this accounting.

This resulted in the following proposal, which was left to the Federal Government, the representatives of the two Governments conferring again in November 1922, when it was found that the proposal did not meet with the Dominion Government's favor. Premier King then verbally made the second of the two offers previously mentioned, and on January 2, 1923, Premier Greenfield wrote Premier King that in the Alberta Government's opinion the offer was inadequate, on any basis of valuation of the resources alienated for strictly Federal purposes.

DOMINION REFUSES TO ACCEPT PROPOSAL

"Owing to the absence of Dominion Ministers in England and other causes," said Mr. Greenfield, "negotiations were not resumed until January 4th, of this year. At this conference the Dominion Government took the position that they could not accept our proposal for compensation for 6,400,000 acres of land alienated for subsidizing railways prior to 1905; and further, that they could not consider anything prior to 1905."

This refusal, Mr. Greenfield stated, left the two alternative propositions still open for acceptance by the Province, and on January 12th, 1923, Premier King, in a letter used the following words:

"With the understanding, however, that our willingness to continue the present subsidy in lieu of lands for a period of three years was made solely to permit of immediate settlement of the question between our respective Governments, and was to be construed, not as an obligation to continue the subsidy for the period mentioned but, rather, as a consideration sufficient to meet what might be necessary in the way of outlay on the part of the Government of Alberta in effecting the transfer and arranging for the administration of the resources under its control."

Continuing, Premier Greenfield said: "This was the status of negotiations on January 4th and 5th last when I again had a conference with the Dominion Government. At this conference an understanding was reached that the offer of compensation to an amount equivalent to three years' subsidy should remain open to the Province. The original offer of an accounting also remains open for acceptance."

DEFINITE FIGURES NOT PROCURABLE

"By reason of the fact already stated that the accounts of the Department of the Interior in connection with the administration of the natural resources are kept by votes and services and not segregated by Provinces, it has not been possible to secure from Ottawa definite figures as to revenue received and expenditure incurred in the administration of resources situated within this Province. The figures available at best are approximate, in fact only an estimate, and definite dependence cannot be placed upon them."

"Figures recently received from the Department of the Interior as to excess of revenue over expenditure since 1905 differ very widely from figures covering the same period of years supplied to us by the Department of the Interior earlier in the negotiations. The most recent figures covering the years 1905 to 1923 show the lowest estimate of excess of revenue over expenditure. But even

this lowest estimate exceeds the amount offered the Province for immediate settlement, namely, an amount equivalent to three years' subsidy."

"In 1923 the estimated expenditure for administration of resources situated in Alberta, as nearly as can be ascertained, was \$1,366,592, and the revenue was approximately \$957,000. While at first glance this does not appear to be a very good showing, it must be remembered that the figures are approximate only; in fact little more than an estimate."

"This Province, throughout the negotiations, has maintained that it is entitled to compensation for resources alienated. The difficulty has been to come to an agreement with the Federal Government as to the amount of compensation. The natural resources of Alberta are widely distributed, varied and valuable. Indications are not wanting that development of these resources along certain lines will be more rapid in the next few years than in the past. There can be no question that development will be materially facilitated and assisted if settlement of this question can be reached, the transfer to the Province completed and the administration removed from Ottawa to Edmonton. The Government is satisfied that administration costs can be very materially reduced under Provincial control."

QUESTION AS TO PECUNIARY ADVANTAGE

"As I stated in the House last year, there is some question as to the immediate pecuniary advantage to the Province; but there is no question that the control of our lands, minerals, timber and other resources should be centred in the Province itself with the least possible delay. Settlement on the basis of an accounting from 1905 would appear to be the most equitable adjustment of the difficulty, provided the principles and detail governing the accounting can be arranged on a basis satisfactory to both Governments."

"There are, however, difficulties in the way of working out a settlement on this basis, some of which I have intimated to the House. It is doubtful if a settlement on the basis of an accounting can be completed without referring some questions, and probably quite a few questions, to arbitration. These difficulties may not be insurmountable, but they are serious difficulties."

"The Government therefore propose in the resolution submitted to the House that if, after a further careful review of the possibilities of settlement by an accounting since 1905, they consider it in the best interests of the Province to abandon that method and negotiate a settlement by payment of a fixed sum by way of compensation and thus avoid the difficulties of the accounting, the Government shall be at liberty to follow that course."

MUST PROTECT INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF PROVINCE

"We are prepared to bend every effort toward a speedy settlement, but in the settlement it is the duty of the Government to protect, as far as it is possible to do so, the interests of the people of the Province. Desirous as we may be for a settlement; anxious as we may be to secure control of our resources, in order that we may better work out the development of the wealth that lies within our borders, the right to reasonable compensation should not be unduly sacrificed."

NO PARTY POLITICS IN THIS, SAYS BOYLE

Declaring that he had always endeavored to keep this question out of the region of party politics, J. R. Boyle declared that he would say nothing that would hamper the Government in its negotiations. In the legislative term prior to 1917 it had not been possible to obtain any offer from the Dominion Government, but after that, although the Ottawa Government of the day were not very anxious to negotiate, there was a certain change of attitude. It was not until 1921 that a Dominion Government was willing to discuss the matter seriously.

At the conference of 1918 was set up in behalf of the prairie Provinces, a contention with which Mr. Boyle said he had never himself agreed. This was, that compensation should be given for large areas used in territorial days for C. P. R. construction and other purposes. Those resources alienated prior to 1905 had been administered by the Dominion Government, and Mr. Boyle contended that as the Dominion had supplied the cost of administration, and of suppressing two rebellions, no claim could fairly be set up in respect to this period. The Provinces started their career of self-government in 1905 without debts, because the Dominion up to that time had paid all the costs of government. The theory that the Dominion had been trustees for the Provinces, between 1870 and 1905, was not valid.

"For my own part," said Mr. Boyle, "I would not like to take an accounting for the whole period from 1870 to 1905. We cannot expect all 'take' and no 'give'. We must adjust our minds to a reasonable appreciation of the views of the people of the other Provinces. In the early days the subsidy was a real advantage. Times have changed, and we shall, in future, rely largely for our revenue upon those resources."

Mr. Boyle doubted whether, if Saskatchewan, which lacked such rich resources as ours, were today offered her lands, together with a continuance of the subsidy indefinitely, the Province would accept, because it was altogether probable that money would be lost on the costs of administration.

SHOULD NOT EMBARRASS OTTAWA GOVERNMENT

The Liberal leader advised the Legislature to be careful not to embarrass the Ottawa Government, which had a difficult task in reconciling the other Provinces of Canada to the contemplated transfer of the resources. He believed that in Alberta the costs of administration would be lower under the Provincial than it was under the Dominion Government, not through any fault of the Dominion Government, but because "long range administration" was always expensive. He suggested the elimination from the resolution of the passages which conveyed the idea that Alberta still believed she was entitled to compensation for resources alienated prior to 1905, as this would injure the cause of the Province at Ottawa. The C.P.R. exemptions since 1905 should be included, however, and as the Dominion would not give up its rights to control water power (this being an international matter), claims for compensation should be made in respect to these rights. There should also be claims for the timber, mineral and

similar rights in the two national parks, which would remain under the jurisdiction of the Dominion Government.

PEARSON BELIEVES FULL CLAIM JUSTIFIED

Robert Pearson, Independent (Calgary), was inclined to agree with the Government as to validity of the moral claim and also as to the expediency of the claim for compensation in respect to resources alienated before 1905. The late Sir Frederick Haultain in 1903 had pleaded the indefeasible right of the people of the Northwest Territories to their resources. When the British Government turned over the Territories to the Canadian Government a sum of \$300,000 was paid, and the British Government also gave \$40,000 a year to Prince Edward Island, in respect to lands alienated prior to Confederation, while a similar precedent was established in the case of Vancouver Island.

STRENGTHEN TERMS, SAYS ALEX. MOORE

Alex. Moore, U. F. A. (Cochrane), believed that the resolution should be re-drafted in such form as to strengthen its terms. Claims should be made in respect to the lands valued at \$2,000,000 which had been given as South African Veterans' scrip, and also for the lands taken from the Dominion by the addition of parts of Rupert's Land containing very great wealth, to Ontario and Quebec.

CHANGE OF ATTITUDE IN 1921, STATES BROWNLEE

Expressing appreciation of the attitude of those who had spoken in behalf of other portions of the Assembly, J. E. Brownlee said he could fully agree with the statement of the Liberal leader that it was only in the year 1921 that the Government of the day showed a real willingness to consider the question of the transfer of the natural resources. It was in that year that the Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, wrote to Premier Stewart, stating that the Government were ready to effect the transfer if the Provinces would give up the claim to the subsidy, in whole or in part. The Alberta Government had contended that the Province was entitled to some compensation for lands alienated by the Federal Government prior to 1905, and Premier Stewart was willing in part to withdraw from that position.

The attitude subsequently taken by the U. F. A. Government was that they would withdraw all other claims in respect to lands alienated prior to 1905, if compensation were paid in respect to land alienated for the construction of railways in other Provinces. The cold, hard fact was, however, that Alberta was offered a settlement on the basis of an accounting which left this out of account, and that this would not be considered. It was realized by the Alberta Government that the Dominion Government could only concede what the representatives of other Provinces of Canada, in the Federal Parliament, might be willing to concede. It was questionable whether any Dominion Government that might come into power could go any further than the present Government had done.

"My opinion is," said Mr. Brownlee, "that after Alberta has received its resources, the Dominion Government will realize that the costs of administration by the Federal authorities in the other prairie Provinces involves a loss, and

that they will be inclined to give to Saskatchewan and Manitoba their lands, and also to continue the subsidies, because by this means they will save money."

PROPAGANDA MAY PROVE TO HAVE BEEN EXAGGERATED

A great deal of propaganda in favor of the transfer of the resources to Alberta, declared the Attorney-General, was based on the belief that this would solve the financial problem of the Province. For his own part, if anyone could guarantee that there would be no great oil development within the next few years, he would not have gone so far as he had done in recommending the transfer of the resources, for, disregarding this contingency, the value of the transfer to the Province, from an economic standpoint, was very doubtful. A transfer made on the proposed basis would mean at the present time that there would be an amount somewhat exceeding \$400,000 to pay the multitude of expenses incidental to administration. The two land titles offices now administered by the Province cost \$170,000, and this figure would be greatly exceeded by the assumption of the new responsibilities.

An approximate accounting dating back to 1905 showed, said Mr. Brownlee, at least \$200,000 more than would be received by the Province if the alternative offer of the three years' subsidy were accepted. The Attorney-General agreed with Mr. Boyle that compensation should be received for land alienated to the C. P. R. since 1905, and had in fact presented a claim for this, and also in respect to the water powers, and the Dominion Government had been prepared to concede the mineral and forest rights in the national parks. The difficulty arose from the consideration that complications might here arise between the Dominion and the Province, on certain matters. The authorities in charge of the parks in their interpretation of their duty to prevent the destruction of the natural beauty of the parks, might entertain different views from those of the Provincial authorities which desired to develop the resources.

WHERE ALBERTA STANDS ABSOLUTELY ALONE

Mr. Brownlee pointed out that Alberta stood absolutely alone among all the Provinces of Canada in having spent money lavishly on colonization roads. A total of \$30,000,000 had been spent for this purpose, and had been made necessary in large measure by an immigration policy for which the Dominion and not the Provincial Government was responsible.

Mr. Brownlee then announced the Government's willingness to confer with other parts of the Assembly in framing an agreed resolution.

URGE RAILWAY FACILITIES FOR THE NORTH

Urging the Federal Government at once to carry out further railway construction to ensure the settlers of the Peace River district more direct connection with the markets for their produce, a resolution moved by V. W. Smith, Minister of Railways, this evening, was adopted without division. Mr. Smith and Premier Greenfield spoke at length on the problems of transportation as they affect the north country.

The resolution was in the following terms:

Whereas, the great and urgent need for transportation facilities which will relieve the serious conditions existing in the agri-

cultural areas of the Peace River district is apparent;

And whereas, if further depopulation of this already well developed and proved territory is to be avoided and development of its great resources to continue, relief must be immediately given;

Be it therefore resolved, that this Legislature urge upon the Federal Government the immediate and pressing need for such further railway construction as will ensure to the settlers of the Peace River district more direct connection with markets, with a view to reducing the cost of transportation, and thereby relieving them from the unfavorable economic conditions which exist at the present time.

In moving the resolution, Mr. Smith said:

"I presume that most of the members of this House have some knowledge, either direct or indirect, of the Grande Prairie and Peace River districts. These districts containing, as they do, large areas of the most fertile and productive soil in western Canada, have been favorably known to the people of Canada and the United States for many years, and settlers were attracted to them long before the advent of railways and when the nearest railroad was yet hundreds of miles distant. With the construction of the E. D. & B. C. and Central Canada railways in the years 1912 to 1915 the Grande Prairie and Peace River districts received the encouragement and impetus which had been long awaited. The settlers of these districts were of the best and most progressive type, who saw in these attractive, park-like territories an opportunity to create homes for themselves under the most desirable conditions. The confidence of these people in the results to be obtained from these fertile lands has proved to be amply justified, and this faith and confidence still remains unshaken.

MUST HAVE SHORTER ROUTE TO TIDEWATER

"There is one problem, however, that vitally affects the prosperity of the people of the Grande Prairie and Peace River districts, the solution of which demands the most careful and earnest consideration of this House and of the Federal Government at Ottawa. I refer to the handicap imposed as a result of the high cost of transporting their grain and other products to world markets. The effect of these high costs has been to discourage further settlement and development in the districts in question and bring about generally unfavorable economic conditions. A study of the problems presented makes it apparent that relief from the present conditions can only be obtained from some solution that will provide an outlet to tidewater by a shorter route than the one now available, and much attention has been directed in the past year or two to this problem of providing railway transportation at reduced cost to and from the Grande Prairie and Peace River districts of Alberta and British Columbia.

"Some comment of a more or less critical nature has been made at various times on the wisdom of permitting the settlement and service and thus laying the foundation for transportation problems which constitute one of the vexing questions in our Province. It should be kept in mind, however, that railway surveys had been made through the Grande Prairie district by the Grand Trunk Pacific as early as the years 1903 to 1905. A further survey was made by the same railway of a line from Edson north in the direction of Grande Prairie in the

year 1911. Between the years 1910 and 1914 the Dominion Government subdivided practically all of the land immediately available for settlement in the Grande Prairie and Peace River districts, and it was at this period that the large influx of settlers occurred. It is therefore apparent that the present condition is to a large extent due to a more or less active policy of encouragement on the part of the Dominion Government with the object of settling up vacant Dominion lands. It is not necessary to discuss, nor do I believe it is possible to decide at this time, whether this policy was correct or not. It is sufficient to know that the conditions described do exist and that some remedy based on sound economic principles requires to be applied as soon as may be possible.

PROBLEM NATIONAL, RATHER THAN PROVINCIAL

"To plan, finance, construct and operate on the most economical basis the additional lines of railway necessary to adequately serve the agricultural, fuel and mineral resources in this territory is a national rather than a Provincial problem. The Edmonton, Dunvegan and British Columbia and the Central Canada Railways have been constructed from Edmonton to their present termini almost entirely with funds obtained from the sale of bonds guaranteed by this Province and with advances made in the form of loans by the Province. These are really colonization roads and their construction should have been undertaken by the Dominion Government in the first place. The natural resources that are served by these northern railways in this Province now belong, or did belong, to the Dominion Government and were disposed of under Dominion Government control. The Dominion Government has some 3,500,000 acres of agricultural, coal, mineral and timber lands in the Peace River block of British Columbia which require railway transportation facilities to serve the settlers now there, and for the proper development of its vast resources now inaccessible through lack of adequate transportation facilities.

"The selection of a proper route as an outlet for the agricultural and mineral resources of these districts is a problem of the utmost importance, as any solution that results in the diversion of this traffic into uneconomical and unnatural channels must inevitably react in a harmful manner upon the interests of the people who find themselves dependent on such a line for the transportation of their products to world markets, and this condition would in turn have its effect upon the people of the country as a whole.

"A study of the map of Northern Alberta and Eastern British Columbia indicates that the logical outlet to the seaboard for the products of this territory is westerly to the Pacific rather than easterly to the Great Lakes and the Atlantic ports. Consequently a consideration of available outlets should be confined to the selection of a route which will permit of the shortest mileage and the lowest gradients through one of the western passes to the Pacific ports and at the same time serve the maximum amount of territory.

IN LINE WITH ANNOUNCED POLICY

"This is in line with the policy recently announced by the Honorable Minister

of Railways at Ottawa, when replying to a delegation from the north urging the construction of the Brule-Grande Prairie branch. The Minister stated that there would be no construction of a railway into the Peace River country this year, but that a thorough investigation of all projected lines would be made.

"A policy recommending a thorough investigation of all available routes, in order that the maximum benefit may ultimately accrue to these districts, is to be commended, but it is regrettable that no immediate relief is in sight for the serious transportation problem now existing in this district.

"The routes which have received the most attention in recent years are the Pine Pass, Wapiti Pass, and Brule route, and let us hope that when the Dominion Government ultimately decides on a route, it will be found to be one which will lend itself to the most economical development of all the agricultural areas in these northern districts.

"These investigations should be conducted without unnecessary delay and a conclusion reached, in order that the relief necessary may be provided in the shortest space of time. Any solution which will provide better and more economical transportation facilities to Pacific ports will be welcomed and will bring prosperity and contentment to the pioneers of these districts.

"Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the resolution standing in my name on the order paper."

PREMIER GREENFIELD ON RAILWAY PROBLEMS

The people of the north country, said Premier Greenfield, in a brief speech, were getting "near to the end of the tether," and matters had reached such a pass that the Provincial Government should at once meet with the Dominion Government and try to work out some definite scheme to relieve the situation. Very definite action should be taken this year.

"The problem facing the people of the Grande Prairie and Peace River country," declared the Premier, "is a most serious one, in which the future of one of the best agricultural areas in Western Canada is vitally concerned.

"To place agriculture and business generally in the Peace River country on a basis that will permit of farmers developing their present holdings, and a normal development of business, an outlet to the Pacific coast must be secured and secured promptly.

SETTLERS ALBERTA CANNOT AFFORD TO LOSE

"The country was settled by a type of settler Alberta cannot afford to lose. The people who went in and settled this large area of land went there believing that this outlet would be provided for them in the not distant future. The Canadian National Railways have undertaken a survey from Brule to Grande Prairie connecting with the main line of the Canadian National. This survey, I am informed, is not yet complete. If, when it is completed, the proposed line is found to be a feasible one from a construction standpoint and sound from a business and financial standpoint, it should be constructed. If good reason can be shown why construction should not be proceeded with, definite steps must be taken at an early date to provide an outlet by one of the alternative routes to the coast.

The definite provision for an outlet westward for the north country is a matter of great importance to this Province, and, in view of the fact that the Canadian National are seriously considering the advisability of construction, and also the fact of the approaching expiration of the lease of the E. D. & B. C. Railway held by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, the Government proposes actively to take up the whole question of the future railway development of the north country with the two transcontinental systems and with the Dominion Government, in order that the best solution may be arrived at.

"While the Dominion has been slow to acknowledge any liability in connection with railroad facilities for the north country, they have a very definite liability and should be prepared if necessary to share the burden of providing transportation for the people of the north."

C. W. Cross, Liberal (Edson), declared that the problem facing the people of the north country was simply one of transportation. Their natural markets were reached by way of Prince Rupert and Vancouver. He believed that the Brule Lake line should be constructed, and that it would pay its way from the beginning.

PRESENTS STRONG CASE FOR COMPENSATION BILL

Presenting the case for the amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act, J. E. Brownlee, speaking on the second reading of the bill, declared that as a lawyer he had never been able to understand why the labor people, when this bill was first brought in several years ago, should have consented, as they had done, to giving up their right to take action under the common law, to recover damages in respect to industrial accidents. As is well known, in some other Provinces of the Dominion, where Workmen's Compensation is in effect, the common law has not been superseded. The Assembly, after a brief discussion gave the bill second reading without division.

M. C. McKeen, U. F. A. (Lac Ste. Anne), who had been unable, owing to illness, to hear the evidence brought before the Agricultural Committee, said he could not express an opinion as to what the correct percentage to be paid to victims of industrial accidents, and he suggested that the Assembly might be in a better position to judge, were the amendments left over until after the commission of inquiry into the coal industry had reported, when it might be found that the industry was over capitalized and that by the squeezing out of the water it could be placed in a better position to meet compensation charges. He favored immediate increase for children, under the terms of the act.

ARGUMENT NOT VALID, DECLARES BROWNLEE

"The argument which is so frequently being used that this bill is throwing a heavy load on the primary producers is not valid," said Mr. Brownlee, in presenting the case for the bill. The Attorney General went on to say that the consumption of coal by the primary producers formed but a small fraction of the total, and it was in the coal industry that the increases would be most important. As to manufacturing, the difference in cost which the act would effect was also small, and the cost of commodities in Alberta was based not primarily on the cost of production, but on the de-

gree of competition which was exerted by outside manufacturers.

The principle of the act was undoubtedly sound. In 1906 it was extended by the Parliament of Great Britain to all fields of labor, including agriculture, but in 1908, when the principle was first introduced in Alberta, the act was based not on the British Act of 1908, the Alberta Legislature adopting the old British Act of 1897.

SMALLER AMOUNT

THAN UNDER COMMON LAW

Going on to describe his experience as a lawyer in certain classes of actions for damages, Mr. Brownlee said that if the cost under the present Alberta act were compared with the amounts paid by employers by way of damages for accidents in hazardous occupations, under the common law, before the act came into effect, it would be found that the act was very much cheaper. As a lawyer, also, he had never been able to understand why labor had been ready to give up its common law rights, even when the act was adopted, because he knew that in actions at law, workmen would receive much greater sums in many cases, than they did receive under the act.

The Attorney General pointed out to Mrs. McClung, who had opposed the bill, that the allowances to widows were smaller than under the Mothers' Allowance Act, and that \$35 a month was never a fair amount, the proposed amendments respecting children, however, placing this matter on a more fair and reasonable basis.

THOROUGH SUPPORTER OF THE BILL

"I am a thorough supporter of workmen's compensation," declared Mr. Brownlee in conclusion, "and from the standpoint of a comparison with other Provinces, the provisions of this bill cannot reasonably be objected to."

Alex. Ross dealt with the complaint of R. C. Marshall that the bill had been introduced late in the session, pointing out that no bill had received more advance notice than this, and that it had been discussed very thoroughly in the Agricultural Committee.

ASK PROVINCIAL BONDING OF ELEVATOR AGENTS

Calling for the Provincial licensing and bonding of elevator agents, and the drawing up by the Provincial Minister of Agriculture of regulations governing the operations of these agents and the imposition under Provincial law of penalties for offences, C. W. Smith, U.F.A. (Redcliff), moved a resolution of thirteen clauses in which a detailed plan for the working out of his proposal was outlined. Mr. Smith spoke at length on behalf of his motion, which was opposed by J. E. Brownlee, Attorney General, on the ground first, that the Government had already by its action in conducting investigations and presenting evidence before the Royal Grain Inquiry Board, taken effective steps to bring all grievances before the most competent authority that had as yet been set up, and all legislation should therefore wait on the findings of the Board; and secondly, because it appeared desirable in the interests of the grain growers of the Dominion that there should be one central authority for Canada, with authority over grain trade operations, and that the farmers' organizations themselves would not support a resolution of this character, which proposed to set up Provincial jurisdiction in the matter. It would not

be tolerable to the farmers of Alberta, for instance, that the British Columbia Government should have jurisdiction over the handling of Alberta grain passing through Vancouver to the markets of the world.

WHAT THE RESOLUTION CALLED FOR

Mr. Smith's resolution set forth that the present method of marketing grain at country elevator points is subject to abuses, resulting in serious loss to the farmer so marketing his grain; and that the Assembly could remedy these conditions by instituting a system of inspection by the licensing of country elevator agents. It proposed:

1. To require the Minister of Agriculture to keep an up-to-date list of all country and terminal elevators in Canada, with location, names and addresses of owners and operators, and, in case of a Corporation, the names and addresses of its officers.
2. To provide for the licensing and bonding of country elevator agents.
3. To compel bonding companies to give reasons for their refusal to grant a bond to any country elevator agent and to punish such bonding company and every person found guilty of black-listing as under the Act provided.
4. To make all necessary regulations.
5. To compel returns to be made to the Minister of Agriculture.
6. To provide for Inspector and Auditor relative to agents' books and business.
7. To authorize the Minister of Agriculture to carry out investigations upon complaints.
8. To compel such agents in their dealing to preserve the identity of grain in that they shall not sell or offer for sale grain on a lower grade or a higher dockage than that upon which said grain was received into said country elevator.
9. To compel every agent or other person from selling any compound or mixture, imitation or substitute or offering the same for sale unless the same is correctly labelled so as not likely to deceive any person with respect to their true nature.
10. To declare that all overages in respect of grain handled by said agents shall be the property of the producers of said grain.
11. To require the Minister of Agriculture to publish in the press of this Province actual market values of Canadian grain in the markets of Liverpool as well as railway freight rates and ocean tonnage and terminal elevator tariffs from Fort William, Port Arthur and Vancouver to Liverpool aforesaid.
12. To provide penalties for offences.
13. To provide that fines and penalties and fees shall find their way into the Treasury of this Province.

The abuses complained of, said Mr. Smith, affected alike the farmer selling grain at country elevator points and the buyer of grain at these points, who was under the domination of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange and the bonding companies. The member quoted at length from evidence before the Royal Grain Inquiry Board, and from the official organ of the grain buyers, in support of his charge that, to quote the grain buyers' paper, "the buyer must steal from the farmer in order to be considered an honest man by the bonding company."

ADVISED TO ENGAGE IN "ANOTHER OCCUPATION"

Cases were cited in which buyers had been charged with serious shortages (not with dishonesty in any form but with shortages which had arisen presumably in the course of their conscientious performance of their duties). A reputable buyer who had suffered two small shortages received advice to "en-

gage in another occupation," and it was intimated to him that he would be unable to find employment in his own calling, with any concern. Through the bonding companies the grain companies had power in this manner to blacklist any buyer. To save themselves against blacklisting, therefore, buyers built up overages in self protection, "Be a little crooked now and then; and if you work this smooth you can carry it out for some time," was one of the maxims quoted by Mr. Smith from an authority on this subject in the trade.

The member for Redcliff stated that he had himself appeared before the Royal Grain Inquiry Board at Medicine Hat. He had been informed by Mr. Van Allen that the Morrison charges had been practically substantiated. Mr. Smith calculated that on the basis of the highly conservative estimate given by a grain concern here last year, that overages amounted to three-quarters of one per cent, more than \$1,000,000 was lost to the farmers of Alberta on a crop of 150,000,000 bushels during the past season. Overages in fact, the member believed, amounted to much more than the figures quoted, running to 2 and 3 per cent. more.

Stating that evidence had been produced to show that scales were frequently manipulated in such a way as to give an advantage to the elevator companies, Mr. Smith cited eleven examples of this practice. "The farmer," said he, "has now become accustomed to getting short weight, and he pays little attention to it. The coal miners have an official checker to see that they do not get short weight. The farmer is also entitled to an independent weighing system."

The proposed Provincial regulation, said Mr. Smith, would benefit alike farmers who sold through the Pool, but who must make use of the country elevators, and farmers who sold in the old fashioned way on the open market.

WHAT FARMERS HAD BEEN CONCENTRATING ON

Mr. Brownlee expressed complete sympathy with the objects which the mover of the resolution had in view, but cited the reasons mentioned above why he could not support it. The farmers' organizations of Canada had been concentrating for years on the effort to obtain an efficient central authority over grain trade operations, and the establishment of the Canada Grain Board was one of the greatest achievements of these organizations. If he himself were making any recommendation, it would be that the Grain Act should be supplemented by additional legislation, making the protection given to the producer more effective, but the authority should be central and Dominion-wide in its powers, rather than Provincial. It was moreover, difficult for a lawyer who had given much consideration to the matter to say definitely how far the Province had power to regulate grain trade operations.

Difficulties had arisen from the existence as a distinct body of the Vancouver Harbor Commission. While he would not suggest in the Assembly that there was "anything crooked" about the manner in which the work of the Harbor Board was carried on, Mr. Brownlee said conditions would undoubtedly be more satisfactory when controlled at Vancouver under the same central supervision that was exercised elsewhere.

Mr. Smith in reply said that the Can-
(Continued on page 12)

Bankers' Association Meet Complete Defeat When Infallibility Is Challenged in House

Views Ridiculed a Year Ago Carry the Day in Acceptance of Principle of Irvine Resolution—
Scope of the Inquiry

By E. J. GARLAND, M.P.

The House of Commons adopted by a vote of 133 to 27, an amendment to William Irvine's resolution regarding the Home Bank. The original motion asked for a Parliamentary committee to investigate the failure of the Home Bank for the following purposes: (a) to discover any weaknesses in the Bank Act which may be amended to prevent a similar occurrence; (b) to devise some means of protecting depositors; (c) to determine the possibility of saving the Home Bank depositors from loss.

Masterpiece in Bridled Attack

Mr. Irvine's presentation of his case was a masterpiece in its carefully bridled attack upon the Bank Act and its controlled ridicule of the pretensions of the bankers. Last year such a speech would have been hurled in vain against the stony indifference of complacent confidence in our banking institutions. Indeed, speeches containing many of the same facts and the same reasoning were ridiculed or ignored.

But today these facts and this reason are listened to and (mirabile dictu!) supported by some of those who a matter of months ago would have branded them as heresy. Our readers may well ask, why the change? And the answer is given in the words of an editorial in the Vancouver Sun:

"The Canadian banking system has collapsed. The system of one man management; the system of shareholders' audit instead of Government inspection; the system which pays only three per cent. on deposits and gives no guarantee. We repeat this system has utterly failed to sustain Canadian business and to maintain Canadian confidence."

No one seemed to believe that the Labor, United Farmer and Independent members of the banking committee of last year had earnestly studied the whole question and were speaking but the truth. It took the shattering of the reserves of the Union and Standard banks, the near collapse of the Bank of Hamilton and its subsequent merger with the Bank of Commerce, the drowning state of La Banque Nationale, saved by merging with the Bank of Hochelaga, and a life-gift of \$15,000,000 from the Quebec treasury, and the crowning calamity of the failure of the Home Bank with all its attendant losses, finally to convince the public and the Parliament that indeed these men knew whereof they spoke.

Belated Headlining

"Not one single section in the Bank Act that protects the depositors." What a headline! Why has the press of Canada not long ago made it a head-line? Yet it's the truth, every word of it. Here is another: "Why are banks permitted to loan their entire capital and reserve to one customer?" Yes, their whole capital and reserve. La Banque Nationale had done just this. It had loaned \$5,000,000, equal to its entire capital and reserves, to one machine company.

The answer is that the Bank Act is inspired by the Bankers' Association for

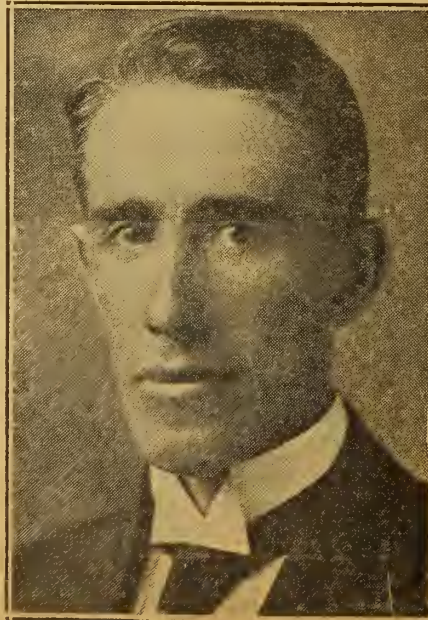
Mr. Garland's article, written in the early part of last week, deals with one of the developments of the present session of the House of Commons. The pioneers of last session in the field of financial reform, have become in some degree the leaders of House opinion, and have broken through the reactionary line at one important salient. This merely marks the beginning of a campaign which promises to be long and arduous.—Editor.

the bankers and not until the coming of the young men from the West has the divinity of this inspiration been challenged. So great indeed has been the revolution of ideas during the past few months that with the single exception of Mr. Irvine, not one of the small group of reformers of a year ago were under the necessity of speaking this year in order to convince the House.

Principle of Motion Carries

Those who support the present Bank Act and the Bankers' Association met a complete defeat in the passage of the amendment to Mr. Irvine's resolution, which offered in a slightly altered plan of action, and in different wording practically the terms of the original resolution. The Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce is to consider again the Bank Act, seeking weaknesses and devising means of protecting depositors. It will also consider the findings of the Royal Commission with a view to saving the Home Bank depositors from loss.

And so once more we shall have the Bankers' Association and its galaxy of legal counsel crowding the corridors of the House and invading the Banking Committee room.



E. J. GARLAND, M.P.

Railway Branch Lines

The resolution introducing the Railway Branch Lines are, at time of writing, now under consideration. This year, whilst adhering to the three-year program for construction and the introduction of the matter in bill form rather than estimates, a concession has been made to the Conservatives and the Senate in that each line is being brought down in a separate resolution.

At the moment of writing the Eastern lines have all gone into the bill stage and tonight, April 8th, most of the Saskatchewan lines and some Alberta lines are safely forward by first reading.

The Alberta lines that so far have succeeded in reaching first reading are the Hanna to Warden, 57 miles, the Loverna, westerly for 50 miles, and the Lloydminster, northerly 45 miles.

The Conservatives are holding up the resolutions by, in many instances, frivolous and petty criticisms, not of the construction of the lines, but of the nature of the information given the House by the Government.

We anticipate perhaps, but it may be fairly safe to say that the Senate will probably reject some of the lines again. And very likely the lines upon which the Conservatives have staged the strongest objections.

Experimental Farm and Surveys

The Farmer members this year once more attempted to reduce the vote for experimental farms, and urged closer co-operation with the Provincial Departments of Agriculture in an effort to secure more efficiency and economy. We were unfortunately out-voted. The attack was renewed on an item for surveys again unavailingly, although it was pointed out that we are to vote more than two millions in various departments for many forms of surveying. There is for example, an item of \$35,000 for topographic survey under the Department of National Defence; two under Railways and Canals amounting to \$80,000; yet another under Public Works of \$110,000. Hydrographic surveying is taken care of under Ocean and River Service to the amount of \$310,000. More topographical surveys come under Scientific Institutions, a mere \$470,000. The very next item in the estimates calls for a bagatelle of \$275,000 for geodetic surveying. One page over we find geological surveys costing \$320,000. A little further on under "Indians" are three items for surveys amounting to \$63,250. Under Dominion Lands and Parks for surveys of water and power resources, etc., is the amount \$547,000. Or a grand total of \$2,210,250. Surely co-ordination is imperative, the saving in time, office staff, buildings, messengers, duplication and overlapping in this work alone justifies immediate action. Yet although for three years this has been urged upon the Government, all the satisfaction the public is given is what it can derive from the vague expressions of good intentions uttered by the Minister chiefly concerned.

President Wood Corrects a False Report

With reference to a report which has been printed in the public press, we have received the following from President Wood:

"It was stated in a recent press dispatch that I had said at a meeting at Dauphin, Manitoba, on March the 29th, 'that Alberta farmers who marketed their grain through the co-operative scheme would receive at least 5c a bushel more than if they had marketed it through the old system.' There is no foundation at all for this statement, except that I did say that I believed wheat sold through the Alberta Pool from the time we started up to the time I was speaking, would net the producers more on an average than wheat sold outside of the Pool during the same period of time. I have never at any time, either publicly or privately, undertaken to estimate the number of cents difference there would be between the price of Pool wheat and non-Pool wheat, and as I have no intention of making such an estimate, all who are interested will be entirely justified in discrediting any statement to that effect that may hereafter be attributed to me.

"H. W. WOOD."

HUXLEY TO GRAINGER DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

The Huxley to Grainger U. F. A. District Association meeting, held in the U. F. A. Hall, Huxley, on March 12th, was attended by about sixty delegates.

Discussion of co-operative marketing occupied most of the time. The cream pool, organized last year, having proved successful, many new members signed up. A Provincial scheme to co-ordinate the various co-operative marketing units was discussed. Organization of a co-operative livestock pool was commenced, operation to begin about September 1st. Contracts for five years were signed by many of those present.

A resolution was passed asking that income tax for farmers be levied on the basis of a three-year period; another resolution asked that the Act of Parliament demanding payment of 7 per cent. interest on arrears of payments on purchases of Indian reservation lands, instead of 5 per cent., be rescinded.

A very able address was given by Donald Cameron, Junior, president of the Junior Branch U. F. A., on the work and relationship to the U. F. A. of the public schools. The next meeting will be held in Carbon on June 11th.

Milnes Re-crosses Floor of Assembly

Member for Claresholm Disagrees With Policy of the Government

Expressing disagreement with the financial policy of the Government, T. C. Milnes, member for Claresholm, made application to the Speaker at the opening of the sitting of the Assembly on April 11th, to have his desk moved from the U. F. A. side of the Legislature to a place where he could sit as an Independent Farmer. He read the following statement:

"Since my election to this Legislature, almost three years ago, I have endeavored to the best of my ability to carry out the responsibility placed upon me as a member of this House.

"During that time I have given special attention, so far as within my power, to the question of the conduct of the business of the Province from the standpoint of the finances and its effect upon taxation in the future.

"Having been elected from a constituency composed chiefly of farmers and being a farmer myself and having received generous support from the U. F. A. membership, although I was not the official candidate of that organization, I felt that it was my duty to carry out my work from the viewpoint of an Independent supporter of the present Government and therefore, at the opening session, I accepted a seat on the Government side of the House, and since that time I have for the most part supported the Government in connection with public legislation.

"I gave generous support to the Government because I believed that on account of being a new administration, elected on a platform of economy in the transaction of Government business and depending upon farmers for support, it would, as soon as possible, undertake and carry out widespread economies in keeping with the financial position of the Province and the condition of the times generally.

"For two sessions I have waited, and during that time supported the budget program of the Government, and at this session I expected that the Government, after an experience of over two years in office, would recognize the necessity for a complete revision of the budget and a heavy reduction in the expenditures of various departments.

"When the present budget was introduced I was disappointed in the efforts of the Government in its failure to balance the budget after the experience of previous heavy deficits.

"The continued growth of the public debt also proves to me that the financial condition of the Province is constantly growing worse instead of better, and with no hope of immediate improvement through Government effort.

"In many respects it is apparent to me that improvements can be made and economies carried out.

"I expected reductions to be made during the consideration of the estimates in committee. But the estimates were passed as introduced.

"Mr. Speaker, after giving the whole matter of the Government administration from the viewpoint of my constituents, as well as the public interest generally, my best consideration, I have decided that it will be impossible for me to continue to support the Government policies, and I must ask the Speaker to arrange for my seat to his left, as an Independent Farmer, where I will feel free to support policies that commend themselves more strongly to me than those of the present Government.

"I desire to give active support to keep down the increase in the public debt and to prevent an increase in taxation."

Mr. Milnes' announcement was received with hearty applause from all quarters of the Assembly, and the Speaker stated that he would be pleased to comply with the request. George Hoadley said that the statement that the member "accepted a seat on the Government side of the House", should properly read, "chose a seat on the Government side of the House." Following the afternoon sitting Mr. Milnes chose his new position in the Assembly immediately behind Dr. Stewart, Independent Conservative, and midway between the Liberal and Labor groups.

While Mr. Milnes' intentions had been made known in advance to leading Liberals, his announcement was unexpected by the U. F. A. members of the Assembly, although, when made, it occasioned no surprise. Just before the prorogation of the Legislature, when Captain Pearson, jokingly referring to the recent increase in the number of "Independent" members, remarked that the accommodation in the Independent members' room would soon be inadequate, and would have to be increased, J. R. Boyle retorted that this would be unnecessary, "as the member for Claresholm has already found a place with us."

Mr. Milnes was elected as an Independent in the Provincial election of 1921, defeating Mrs. L. C. McKinney, who was the choice of the U. F. A. Locals in the constituency, by 46 votes. A few days later he made written application for admission to the

first U. F. A. members' conference held in Calgary, prior to the selection of the Premier. The conference decided that the matter was one for the U. F. A. in the Claresholm constituency to deal with, and declined the request. Mr. Milnes continued to seek admission to the U. F. A. group, but was not accepted at the time of the second members' conference in Edmonton, or at the opening of the first session of the new Legislature. At that time the Speaker arranged a place for the member for Claresholm opposite the U. F. A. side of the Chamber, among the Independents. Mr. Milnes himself moved the desk across to the U. F. A. side, and renewed his application for admission to the group. This was finally accepted, against the protest of some of the members, who contended that the decision of the U. F. A. Constituency convention should not be departed from.

Mr. Milnes, who has farming and extensive elevator and other business interests, has a gift for financial matters, and will no doubt be able to render good service in his new position in the Assembly. His lack of sympathy with the U. F. A. group in some important respects has been manifested since the beginning, and has been pronounced during the session of the Legislature just closed. When the members of the Assembly undertook to carry on an aggressive campaign to secure memberships in the Wheat Pool last summer, Mr. Milnes was persuaded to become a member of the Pool, but subsequently withdrew owing to disagreement with the elevator policy which the Pool adopted.

THE FEDERAL BUDGET

The budget presented to the House of Commons on April 10th, by Hon. J. A. Robb, acting Minister of Finance, proposes reductions in the customs tariff on agricultural and dairying implements, mining, quarrying, lumbering and logging machinery, and a reduction in the sales tax from six to five per cent., with an increase in the list of exemptions. No change is proposed in the income tax schedule.

In the fiscal year which ended on March 31, 1924, Mr. Robb estimated that there had been a reduction in the public debt of \$30,409,109. There had been a surplus of revenue over expenditure during the year of \$20,786,349, and the balance was made up by cancellation of indebtedness including a payment of \$8,205,760.27 from the Imperial Government, in adjustment of book debts. Tariff and sales tax changes would reduce the revenue for the coming year by \$24,000,000, it was estimated.

The general tariff will be reduced by the new budget from 10 to 6 per cent. on mowing machines, harvesters and binders, and from 12½ to 7½ per cent. on cultivators, harrows, rakes, seed drills, manure spreaders and weathers. Preferential tariff will be removed on the implements named above. On plows and threshing machines the preferential tariff will be reduced from 10 to 5 per cent. and the general tariff from 15 to 10 per cent. On farm wagons the preferential tariff will be reduced from 10 to 5 per cent. and the general tariff from 15½ to 10 per cent. On field rollers, post-hole diggers, incubators, milking machines, machines for testing butterfat, hay loaders, stumping machines, grain crushers, potato diggers and other implements the reduction on preferential tariff is from 10 to 5 per cent., and the general tariff from 15 to 10 per cent. Fertilizers are placed on the free list.

The sales tax will be removed from all the farming implements named.

Pig iron, bar iron and bar steel to be used in the manufacture of mowers, binders, rakes, seed drills and other implements will be placed on the free list in lieu of a drawback on 99 per cent.

The sales tax will be removed from cereal foods, cured meats, well drilling machinery, milk foods, cream separators, dipping and spraying preparations, carbolic oil for creosoting lumber, surgical instruments and hospital appliances, books for the blind, scientific and text books, and other articles. A sales tax of 2½ per cent. will be imposed on canned fruits and vegetables, jams and preserves, and boots and shoes.

CROP PAYMENTS ACT

The Crop Payments Act of 1922 was amended at the session just closed, to provide that a person or firm holding a lease as a mortgagee, shall not be entitled to ownership of more of the crop than is necessary to discharge the interest due on the mortgage, nor to confer any priority upon him in respect to crops agreed to be delivered in excess of such part.

GREENFIELD SUBMITS RESOLUTION ON THE RESOURCES QUESTION

(Continued from page 9)

ada Grain Act did not fully meet the local situation. The U. G. G. and the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company would no doubt disapprove of the resolution, because they were, said the member, under the control of the same bonding companies as other firms, and closely allied with the Grain Exchange. The Royal Grain Inquiry Board had undoubtedly done a great deal of good, but there was no assurance that its recommendations would be put in effect. The Liberals and Conservatives representing the capitalistic interests of Montreal and Toronto could not be relied on to do anything, whichever of these two parties was in power at Ottawa.

The resolution was defeated by 32 votes to 14, the Assembly dividing as follows:

For the motion: Messieurs Matheson, Shield, Carson, Moore, McKeen, Brown, St. Arnaud, Buckley, Smith (W. C.), Enzenauer, Chornohus, Cross, Christophers, Johnston (W. G.).

Against the motion: Messieurs Greenfield, Brownlee, Hoadley, Reid, Parly (Mrs.), Smith (V. W.), Baker, Love, Claypool, Forster, MacLachlan, Galbraith, Joly, Washburn, Farquharson, Cook, Smith (G. W.), Stringam, Johnston (G. N.), Saunders, Proudfoot, Boyle, Mitchell, McClung (Mrs.), Mills, Dechene, Marshall, McLennan, Bowen, Stewart, Pearson, Davidson.

"WIPING OUT AN INIQUITY," DECLARES MATHESON

Speaking on the Clearwater bill, A. M. Matheson, U. F. A. (Vegreville), read an extract from the Morning Albertan, in which the creation of this constituency was described as a "disgrace," a "crime," a "political expedient," and quoted various members of the Assembly who opposed the present bill, who formerly had condemned the creation of the riding, one of them having declared that it "was conceived in sin and born in iniquity."

Yet certain of these members now seemed greatly incensed that the Government proposed to wipe out this iniquity. It was strange that they should advise the Legislature to perpetuate a sin. If there were no precedent for the blotting out of a sin of this character, then it must be pointed out that a people who were always bound by precedent could make no progress. Institutions were created for men; not men for institutions. The constitutionality of the bill could be safeguarded by legislation to protect the boundaries of the enlarged constituencies, during the lifetime of the present Legislature.

Mr. Matheson remarked that in 1921 Western Canada was deprived by the Government of the day, then Conservative, of its constitutional right to send 16 members to Ottawa, and yet the member for Lethbridge (Dr. Stewart) had not protested, while in 1917 Dr. Stewart himself, on active service overseas, was enabled to retain his seat without election, by a vote of the Legislature. The member for Whitford, by getting into soldiers' uniform for a very brief period, and going as near to the front as the city of Calgary, had also been returned without election. Much of the talk about the danger of "denting" the constitution was comparable to the flag waving jingoism of 1911. It was significant that no word of protest had been received from

the people of Clearwater, against the action proposed in this bill. "I am willing," said Mr. Matheson in conclusion, "to go before my constituents and stand or fall upon the justice of this bill."

Robert Pearson, Independent (Calgary), said there were two classes of legislation dealt with by the Assembly, the first being bills which did not touch matters of principle affecting the machinery of Government, the second which did. In the second class it was possible that, though not a single citizen protested or objected, a dangerous principle might be established. A great wrong was done, constitutionally, in 1917, in the return of members to the Assembly without election.

"BILL MEANT FOR THE GOOD OF THE PROVINCE"

"I am satisfied," declared the Independent member, "that the Government meant this bill for the good of the Province, and that they were actuated by a desire to do the right thing. Nevertheless, I think it would be unwise to force it through. They would be well advised to withdraw it, or let it die on the order paper." Captain Pearson called attention to a precedent of this kind which, he said, had been set by Mr. Asquith, in the British House. He did not think this bill constitutionally the right way to deal with the Clearwater matter.

J. C. Bowen, Liberal (Edmonton) declared that it was dangerous to interfere with the rights of the people under the British Constitution, and that this bill did so.

J. R. Boyle said he did not like to make a speech on the bill at this time (the Assembly was sitting in the evening).

Mr. Hoadley: "I presume it is a case of physical disability."

Mr. Brownlee pointed out that ample opportunity to discuss the measure would occur later in committee, but an adjournment of the debate was finally agreed upon, as a courtesy to Mr. Boyle, and the debate will accordingly drag on for another day.

In committee on the bill to incorporate the Alberta Co-operative Wheat Producers, Ltd., Mr. Brownlee said the Government were considering the request of the Pool for possible financial assistance this year. He did not think there was any possibility that the guarantee of the margin which had been given would come into force. Most of the clauses of the bill, which was outlined in the last issue of "The U. F. A.," were adopted during the sitting.

In committee on the Workmen's Compensation Act amendment bill, W. G. Johnston, Labor (Medicine Hat), said he had endeavored to get the men of the railway brotherhoods to come under the scope of the act. If the maximum were raised to as high a figure as that of British Columbia, they would be willing to do so, but the men now felt that they were better off with common law rights alone. Some railway employees now excluded, said Mr. Ross, had signified their desire to come under the act.

A motion by P. M. Christophers, to raise the compensation to a widow from \$35 a month, the figure in the bill (the same amount as in the old act), to \$40, was defeated, Messrs. Davidson, C. W. Smith, Donald Cameron and C. W. Cross voting with the three Labor members for the amendment. Everyone would agree that it was impossible to pay for board and room out of \$35 a month, said Mr. Christophers.

Clearwater Bill Is Carried on Second Reading, 32 to 17

Boyle and MacLachlan Wind Up Debate on Bill to Abolish Freak Constituency

WEDNESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, April 9.—The second reading of the bill to eliminate the constituency of Clearwater was carried in the Assembly this afternoon, by a vote of 32 to 17, after speeches by J. R. Boyle, who objected to the measure on constitutional grounds, and, in an oratorical effort "with all the stops out", denounced the Government, declaring that their reason for not holding the election was that they knew that the U. F. A. candidate would be defeated; and George MacLachlan, U. F. A. member for Pembina, who answered Mr. Boyle, and described in detail the position which had arisen in the constituency, declaring finally that if an election had been held, any opponent of the U. F. A. would undoubtedly have lost his deposit. From a political standpoint the advantage would have lain with the Government had they considered the matter from that point of view.

Mr. Boyle in opening asked whether the bill was to be brought into effect only after dissolution of the Assembly, and a general redistribution, Mr. Hoadley replying that the intentions of the Government were expressed fully in the bill.

IN CONFLICT WITH CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES, SAYS BOYLE

Contending that the act was in conflict with constitutional principles, Mr. Boyle said that at the time of Confederation, provision was made in subsection 5 of Section 51 of the B. N. A. Act that the decennial redistribution therein provided for should not take effect until the termination of the existing Parliament immediately preceding it. In this way provision was made against any Province being discriminated against. The object was that no man should be deprived of a voice in the Government of the country. The British Parliament was careful not to allow anything in the electoral arrangements which would work to the disadvantage of any party.

It might be said, added Mr. Boyle, that the provisions laid down in the B. N. A. Act concerning redistribution did not apply to the Provincial Assemblies. Nevertheless, the power which the Provinces possessed in some measure to change their constitutions, did not give them the right to "destroy the constitution."

The bill before the Legislature, said the Liberal leader, was a violation of the constitution and of every principle of fair play. It meant that the Government, if it wished, and had the support of a majority, might wipe out any other seats as it wished; that it might first eliminate the other groups in the Assembly by abolishing their seats, and then pass bills to abolish the seats of any members on the Government side who differed with the Government in any important way. It might finally, "wipe out all the seats except those of the gentlemen and lady who sit upon the treasury benches."

Discussing the act of 1917, which provided that certain members of the Assembly then in uniform, some of them on active service overseas, should hold their seats without election, Mr. Boyle said that this was a wartime measure, and the circumstances were exceptional. Things were done then which were unconstitutional. "The Premier of Alberta of that day, had", said Mr. Boyle, "discussed this matter with me, and asked 'Why worry about the constitutionality of what we are doing? Is not the main thing whether it is fair and just? If necessary the British Parliament would make it constitutional.'" Those were the words of an eminent lawyer who had been on the bench.

If asked whether the action of the Government in 1917 were constitutional, continued Mr. Boyle, he would say "No", but we were no longer in a state of war, and the present bill was for the purpose solely of rectifying a mal-distribution of seats. If the constituency of Clearwater should never have been created, why did not the U. F. A. Government wipe it out during the first session, in 1921? Because they lacked sufficient courage to do so during the lifetime of the sitting member? In view of the railway situation in the north there never had been a time when the people needed a representative more than they did today.

CITES FIGURES FOR OTHER CONSTITUENCIES

Mr. Boyle then cited the election returns for a number of constituencies, stating that 558 votes were cast in Clearwater, 1,245 in Warner, 1,185 in Nanton, 1,502 in Cochrane; while in Peace River 5,250 were cast. Yet on the ground of equalization it was proposed to add to Peace River a vote equal to nearly half the vote cast in Nanton. Was that remedying an inequality?

Mr. Boyle asserted that if the late member had been a U. F. A. man there would have been no bill to wipe out the constituency. He then went on to allege that Mr. MacLachlan had been "sent into the constituency to feel out the sentiment there."

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE VACANCY OCCURRED

Mr. MacLachlan: "I was requested to go into Clearwater, by the people there, just after the 1921 election, not just after the vacancy occurred, and I was requested to do so because the people informed me that they could get no information about Provincial affairs in any other way, because they never saw their own member."

At a meeting in Clearwater, Mr. Boyle went on, the people voted unanimously in favor of an immediate election, but Mr. MacLachlan "discovered that they would not elect a supporter of the Government, because Mr. Critchlow was not popular." There were worse things, however, than the losing of an election. One of these was to lose the respect of the people of the country.

"FEEBLE IMITATION OF MEXICO"

M. Chornohus, member for Whitford, alluding to the fact that the former member retained his seat without an election by "going into the King's uniform," although he was afterwards compelled to abandon it, as he was an Austrian subject, asked, "Was it the aim of the preceding Government to legislate to allow a man to put on the King's uni-

form in order to avoid an election? What was it that enabled this member to put on a uniform?" Mr. Boyle replied that the member (Mr. Shandro) had gone into training in good faith, and concluded by describing the action of the U. F. A. Government in the matter of Clearwater as a "feeble imitation of Mexico", where elections were held, not by the ballot, but by force of arms. This and other outbursts of heroic indignation by the Liberal leader provoked ironical cheers on the U. F. A. side of the Assembly, and some cynical amusement in the galleries.

MacLACHLAN OUTLINES HISTORY OF THE MATTER

Remarking ironically that he was greatly surprised that people in Edmonton would pay \$250 to hear the great English actor, Martin Harvey, when they could come to the Legislative Assembly and hear the Liberal leader for nothing, George MacLachlan, U. F. A. (Pembina), described the geographical difficulties and the difficulties of transportation between the northern and southern ends of the constituency which made Clearwater virtually two distinct units, one in the north and one in the south. Mr. MacLachlan also dealt in detail with the statements made by the opposition leader with reference to his own (Mr. MacLachlan's) activities in the constituency.

A barrier of high hills, said the member for Pembina, completely separated the northern half of Clearwater from the southern half, and communication between these two halves was more difficult than communication between almost any other areas in the Province.

From the southern part of the constituency of Clearwater, which adjoined Pembina, said Mr. MacLachlan, he had received many requests, not on the eve of the election, but as long ago as 1921, from U. F. A. Locals who wished to unite with the constituency association in Pembina. Anyone familiar with the U. F. A. form of organization would realize the situation. The president of the association, Hugh Critchlow (everyone knew the duties of a U. F. A. constituency president), had always, when possible, travelled with Mr. MacLachlan during his annual visits to the Locals, and presumably always would. In response to the invitations received from the southern portion of Clearwater, the member for Pembina went on, he visited the constituency, accompanied by Mr. Critchlow. The southern part of Clearwater which adjoins Pembina, had amalgamated with the Pembina Association in one common organization, with Mr. Critchlow of Barrhead, as president. **REQUESTS FOR READJUSTMENT FROM CONSTITUENCY**

The close relationship between the U. F. A. in Pembina and in this portion of Clearwater had continued since 1921. After the death of Dr. State, Mr. MacLachlan was surprised, at Fort Assiniboine, when the chairman of a meeting which he attended, asked whether, in view of the community of social, geographic and economic interests, this area could not be attached to Pembina. "At the time," Mr. MacLachlan declared, "I said, 'So far as I know it can't be done.'"

Similar requests were made in all parts of Clearwater which he visited, and the people, when told that the readjustment could not be made, finally came to the conclusion that if they "could not get out of the hole in which they found

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New Booklet on CO-OPERATIVE CATTLE SELLING

A new booklet on co-operative cattle selling has just been issued by United Grain Growers Limited, and is obtainable from any livestock office of the Company. It contains a detailed description of the system of co-operative cattle marketing and the process by which it is carried on, and a series of questions and answers covering all phases of the business. Anyone interested in the selling of cattle, who is not already familiar with the plan of co-operative cattle selling, should send for a copy.

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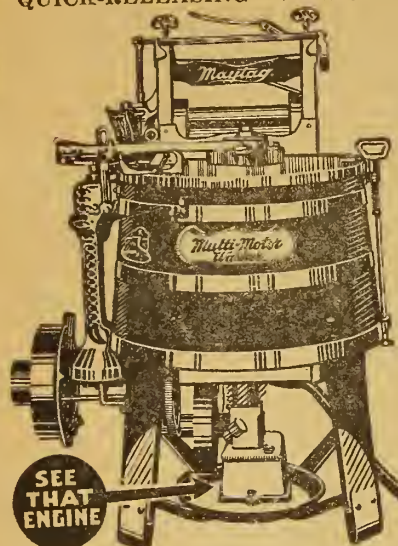
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themselves," they would prefer to have the election right away.

HOW THE ELECTORS OF CLEARWATER VOTED

Mr. MacLachlan submitted the Clearwater election returns for 1921 showing that the Liberal candidate, Dr. State, received 234 votes, the Conservative candidate 117, the Independent candidate 147, and the Farmer 60 votes. Careful examination of the votes showed that the two candidates from the north received their entire support in the north. Mr. Campbell, the Conservative candidate, received only one vote in the south. The Independent candidate, who was resident in the south, received practically his entire support in the south. Dr. State, as the sitting member, being better known than any of the other members and having charge of the patronage, also received some votes in the north and thus won the election, but only as a minority candidate.

WOULD HAVE LOST ELECTION DEPOSIT

It was generally understood that after the next redistribution there would be no more Clearwater. The people were determined that the impossible position in which they found themselves should be ended. The northern voters had all their interests in common with Peace River, the southern with Pembina. Since the election of 1921 organization of the U. F. A. had been proceeding actively, and at the time when the vacancy occurred last fall, anyone who stood against a U. F. A. candidate "would have lost his deposit."

A fair test of the progress made after the Provincial general election first came in the Dominion general election of December in that year, when the votes for the U. F. A. candidate, cast in the area which constituted Clearwater, totalled 241, as against 113 for Campbell, the Conservative, and 75 for Oliver (Liberal).

POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS FAVORED ELECTION

"I found greater enthusiasm there last fall than ever before," said Mr. MacLachlan, in conclusion, "and if the Government had wanted to play for political advantage, they would certainly have held an election, in which event, without the slightest doubt, they would have added another seat to the number on this side of the House."

ADVISED TO CHOOSE MAN FROM CLEARWATER

(During his visit to Clearwater last fall, Mr. MacLachlan, at meeting after meeting, advised the people of the constituency, if an election were held, to choose a candidate resident in the constituency, stating that they should be able, from among their own number, to choose a suitable man. Mr. Critchlow was a resident of Pembina.)

At the conclusion of Mr. MacLachlan's speech the vote was taken, the two Independents and W. G. Johnston (Labor), and Alex. Moore, D. H. Galbraith and T. C. Milnes (U. F. A.), voting with the opposition, and F. J. White (Labor) with the Government. The Assembly divided as follows:

For the motion: Messieurs Brownlee, Hoadley, Reid, Ross, Mrs. Parlbv, Baker, Love, Matheson, Claypool, Forster, MacLachlan, Shield, Carson, McKeen, Brown, Joly, Andrews, St. Arnaud, Buckley, Farnuharson, Peterson, Cook, W. C. Smith, G. W. Smith, Stringam, G. N. Johnston, Sanders, Enzenauer, Proudfoot, Fedun, Chornohus, White—32.

Against the motion: Messieurs Boyle, Mitchell, Cross, Tobin, Mrs. McClung, Dechene, Marshall, Heffernan, McLennan, Bowen, Dr. Stewart, Pearson, Davidson, W. G. Johnston, Milnes, Galbraith, Moore—17.

Paired: Washburn (for) and Mills (against).

The Assembly divided on a motion by J. R. Boyle to recommit the Highways Bill to Committee of the Whole to consider an amendment setting forth that the Good Roads Board shall, subject to the approval of the Minister, allocate the monies to be expended on main highways and determine suitable methods of road construction; and that all monies received from the Dominion for main highways shall be deposited in a special trust account or in the Main Highways Fund Account, and expended on main highways, market or local roads. The amendment was defeated, being supported only by the Liberals and Mr. Milnes, U. F. A. member for Claresholm.

W. M. Davidson moved that the Election Act be recommitted, to provide for the elimination of the election deposit. The motion to recommit was defeated by 26 votes to 15. Messrs. Cameron and Smith supported the motion.

An act to amend the Legal Professions Act was given second reading and advanced to committee. Mr. Brownlee explained that its purpose was to make clear the power of benchers to appoint a discipline committee, and suspend members guilty of serious unprofessional conduct. Mr. Boyle supported the bill, which, he said, was "to enable lawyers to clean their own house."

A large number of bills were given third reading. With the approval of W. H. Shield, the Church Union Bill was re-committed, in order that an amendment might be introduced by M. C. McKeen, of Lac Ste. Anne. This amendment will be moved tomorrow.

Considerable time was spent in committee on the bill to amend the Hospitals Act. A bill to amend the Savings Certificate Act was given second reading on motion of R. G. Reid Provincial Treasurer. The net cost of this money to the Government was 4¼ per cent., said Mr. Reid. It was the cheapest money they could get, and administration cost only ¼ of 1 per cent., as compared with over 1 per cent. in some other Provinces.

In discussion of the bill to establish a Farm Loans Board, C. R. Mitchell said he could see no reason for the bill, and contended that it was "hurried legislation." Mr. Reid replied that it was not hurried, that it had been under careful consideration for a long time past, and that its being brought into operation would depend in the main upon action which might be taken by the Dominion

WOULD LIMIT TO ONE CONSTITUENCY

In committee on the whole on the Election Act, J. C. Buckley, U. F. A. member for Gleichen, proposed an amendment that no candidate in an election should be allowed to run in more than one constituency. Mr. Buckley pointed out that in the event of a candidate being successful in more than one constituency, and a by-election following, great additional expense is involved. The proposal met with much approval among members of the Assembly. It was pointed out that the reform could be effected by amendment of the Legislative Assembly Act.

Government, which had Dr. Tory's report under consideration, to provide the funds.

Mr. Brownlee: "Is the honorable member for Bow Valley opposed to the loans scheme?"

Mr. Mitchell: "No, but it is the most important bill brought in this session."

Reid Discusses the Principles of the Farm Loans Bill

Farm Loans in New South Wales Financed Entirely From Savings Deposits, States Treasurer

THURSDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, April 10th.—An amendment to the Workmen's Compensation bill, to remove the limit of \$90 a month imposed in the bill on the amount which may be paid to the family of a man killed in industry, was carried in the Assembly this morning on motion of W. M. Davidson. Formerly the allowance could not be given in respect to more than four children.

A motion by Mr. Buckley to provide that compensation should not be paid to dependents living in foreign countries was lost, as was a motion by Mr. Dechene, Liberal (Beaver River), to strike out a clause raising the compensation paid to a workman from 55 per cent. to 62½ per cent. of his earnings. (An increase of 66 per cent. had been asked for, and 62½ per cent. was a compromise.)

CHURCH UNION BILL IN COMMITTEE

The Church Union Bill was re-committed on motion of M. C. McKeen, U.F.A., (Lac Ste. Anne), who moved an amendment that the act should not come into force if the Federal Act were found to contain provisions which in principle were inconsistent with the provisions of the Alberta act. The debate on this and other aspects of the bill occupied two hours, five amendments being offered. An amendment by W. H. Shield, U.F.A. (Macleod), to the effect that the bill or any section of it should come into force upon proclamation by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, was withdrawn in favor of an amendment by W. M. Davidson, that the act come into force on the day upon which the United Church shall be incorporated by the Parliament of Canada, provided that the said date may be altered in respect to sections or the whole act, to such dates as may be fixed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. This amendment was carried.

FARM LOANS BILL PASSES COMMITTEE STAGE

The bill to establish a Farm Loans Board was reported by the committee of the whole, after a detailed discussion, in which C. R. Mitchell took a somewhat pessimistic view of the prospects of its success under present conditions. It would add probably from \$20,000,000 to \$30,000,000 to the Provincial debt, he said. There was already a burden of \$30,000,000 on account of railways. He contended that it did not differ materially from the Act of the late Government, except that local responsibility was provided for, and said: "If the Government have not courage enough to put it into force, now, they should not place it on the statute book." Mr. Mitchell questioned the advisability of using demand money from Savings Certificates for long term loans.

Comparing Alberta's financial position with that of other Provinces, he said that the Saskatchewan Farm Loan Board owed over \$500,000 to the Government, as it had not been able to make collections with sufficient success. The U.F.A., said the member, had not pressed very much for the old bill to be brought into operation, when they understood the situation. "If the Provincial Treasurer has not enough trouble on his hands already," was Mr. Mitchell's final

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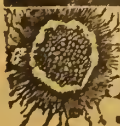
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word, "then let him go ahead with this scheme."

Recalling the session of 1917, when Mr. Mitchell introduced the original Farm Loans Bill, George Hoadley remarked that the old Government, though there was every sign of prosperity at that time, had not brought their measure into effect. When the bill was introduced by the former Provincial Treasurer, it was said that if \$10,000,000 or \$20,000,000 became involved in farm loans, this would act as a balance wheel on farm mortgages.

The bill would not be brought into force, said Mr. Reid, until Ottawa should decide on a farm loans policy, and it would be for the Assembly to decide from time to time the amount of the obligations to be undertaken.

According to what was considered to be a reliable, though not an official estimate, said D. H. Galbraith, U.F.A. (Nanton), mortgages in existence in Alberta totalled \$100,000,000.

The \$30,000,000 debt on account of railways, to which Mr. Mitchell had referred, served a negligible proportion of the population, declared Mr. Reid, whereas from \$20,000,000 to \$30,000,000 in Farm Loans under the scheme proposed would be used for the benefit of the whole Province.

THE EXPERIENCE OF NEW SOUTH WALES

"It is the experience of states that have gone into the farm loan business," added the Provincial Treasurer, "that 20 per cent. of the mortgages must be absorbed before the Government scheme can compete successfully with the mortgage companies and make the amortization plan effective. Twenty per cent. of \$100,000,000 would be \$20,000,000." No state had aimed to do all the mortgage business, the object being rather to impose terms which others must observe.

Mr. Mitchell had asked a question concerning the removal of the maximum sums which the Government might obtain on Savings Certificates (the maximum is removed by an amendment introduced this year), and had intimated that it was not a good principle to use demand money for long term loans. Yet the great Trust companies used demand money for this purpose. In New South Wales, Mr. Reid stated, savings deposits in the Government Savings banks totalled from £60,000,000 to £70,000,000, and farm loans were financed altogether from these deposits. In the United States mutual savings banks, which were not government institutions, invested demand money in mortgages to the extent of 46 per cent., and one such company had 60 per cent. of demand money on mortgages. These private institutions, which had not such great stability as Government institutions, could do this, should not a Government be able to do so? In Australia and in the United States experience showed that there was not great fluctuation in the amount of savings, and in all history there had not been one failure of these institutions.

WHAT REDUCTION OF 2 PER CENT. WOULD MEAN

Saskatchewan and Manitoba owed the difficulties which they had experienced, largely to the influence of deflation during the years immediately following the war. Was not Alberta in a comparatively happy position to begin at a time when as everybody believed the worst of the period had been passed? If by loaning \$20,000,000 under the scheme, the general rate of interest on the total of \$100,000,000 for mortgages could be lowered 2 per cent. (and such decreases had been effected elsewhere), this would mean a saving of \$2,000,000 a year in interest alone, and this, it seemed, would be well worth while.

J. R. Boyle believed that the difficulties in the other Provinces arose in part from the fact that the security taken was not sufficiently good, and in part from the difficulties arising during hard seasons. Interest would be lowered if payments could be obtained more promptly.

"I do not share the views of the honorable member for Bow Valley in regard to the use of the proceeds of Savings Certificates for farm loans," said Mr. Boyle. He believed that the plan, judiciously carried out, would be a good one, and would encourage the peo-

ple of Alberta to keep their money in the Province. One of the problems which any Government scheme must meet arose from the difficulty of withstanding pressure to lend more money than they ought to.

The bill was reported for third reading.

SHARES WILL BE OF FIVE DOLLARS EACH

A brief description of the bill was given in the last issue of "The U.F.A." The bill provides that 4½ per cent. interest shall be paid by the Farm Loan Board to local farm loan associations for the cash payment which it received as part payment of its general revenue. Shares will be of the value of \$5 each, and all applications for shares must be accompanied by 25 per cent. of the face value of the shares applied for. Each applicant must forward an application for two shares, in respect to each \$100 of the amount of his proposed loan.

Liquor Advertising Will Be Permitted

Assembly Reverts to Original Plan—
Joint Resolution on Natural
Resources

FRIDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, April 11.—"I agree with the leader of the opposition—it is not good business to rush legislation," declared Premier Greenfield this evening, when, at a somewhat late hour, J. R. Boyle objected to further business being done, on the ground that the Assembly was to meet again at 10 a.m. tomorrow. The adjournment was agreed to, as it has been on every other occasion during the session when asked for by the opposition leader, and although this policy of extending courtesy to the Liberals, and allowing full and free discussion of legislation by all who wish to participate has inevitably caused some lengthening of the session, at a time when farmer members in particular are anxious to get away to commence spring work on the land, it is generally agreed that this is preferable to the enactment of ill-considered legislation.

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING TO BE CONTROLLED

The events of the day were the adoption of an unanimous resolution on the natural resources, and the defeat of the re-adopted amendment to the Liquor Control Act, made on instructions of the Assembly in committee of the whole, to provide for prohibition of all forms of newspaper advertising. The clause as originally submitted was adopted. This leaves newspaper advertising under control of the Commission, and prohibits billboard and similar forms of advertising.

N. S. Smith, U. F. A. member for Olds, opened the discussion, stating that he was absent when the former vote was taken, or would not have supported any prohibition of newspaper advertising. He had received no communication on the subject from any newspaper, nor had he been approached by anyone, but had held these views strongly from the beginning. The business done by small papers throughout the province would suffer. Advertising was legitimate, but should be done in a legitimate way, and as there was no control of outside papers, the Saskatoon Star, for instance, might come into Alberta carrying liquor advertising, and so might the B. C. papers. The cost of newspapers was cheapened by the advertising which they carried.

A. M. Matheson, U. F. A. (Vegreville), declared that the member for Olds, "an ardent and consistent advocate of prohibition, was now willing for commercial purposes to lend his voice to the corrupting of young people." The member did not see why liquor interests should be allowed to push their sales, and advertising inevitably increased sales; otherwise it was no use. Mr. Matheson said he had never been a friend of the old act, but he did not wish to increase consumption.

J. R. Boyle, who voted last week for a motion calling for prohibition of all forms of liquor advertising, took a somewhat different stand today and urged that separate votes should be taken upon various alternative ways of dealing with the matter. He claimed that the motion he had voted for involved more than one question. He doubted whether the Province had power to prohibit advertising, as this might be considered a matter of criminal law or trade and commerce—Federal affairs.

"Since outside papers can come in, it is hardly fair to discriminate against local papers," said R. C. Marshall, Liberal (Calgary), while Gordon Forster moved the adoption of the original clause—prohibition of billboard advertising, and Commission control of newspaper advertising.

CONTROL PLAN AND THE PRESS ASSOCIATION

This plan, insofar as it concerned the newspapers, was supported almost unanimously by the Alberta Press Association, stated W. M. Davidson, who read voluminous telegrams and letters bearing upon the question. The Edmonton Journal was against the prohibition, though it intended to carry no liquor advertising. In Manitoba and B. C. there was Government control of advertising, and no sort of limitation in Quebec.

A. L. Sanders, U. F. A. (Stettler), believed that advertising was unnecessary, because the public who wanted liquor could always find out where and how to get it. Advertising, though it apparently cheapened the price of newspapers, was really paid for in full by the public, in the prices of commodities.

Premier Greenfield read a telegram dated February 11th, from a representative of the Canadian Press Association, favoring Commission control of advertising. The success or failure of the new act would largely depend upon the attitude of the papers to it, though he would condemn them if they should oppose the legislation because of some unfair discrimination against themselves.

Mr. Matheson took issue with Mr. Davidson, who had stated that the press had received the vote in favor of prohibiting advertising in a dignified manner, declaring that this dignity had not been observed in all cases. As Saskatchewan was a prohibition Province, he doubted whether the Star could carry any liquor advertising. Many of these papers published unfair statements about public men in front page positions and then, when challenged, printed retractions inconspicuously on their back pages.

Mr. Smith (Olds) pointed out that he had not said that the Star did carry liquor advertising, but that if it did, it could not be prevented from coming into Alberta.

Mr. Matheson expressed a hope that Mr. Boyle would vote with him again, and said, amid laughter, that he felt "sure the leader of the new economic group" of one, on the other side of the Assembly (the member for Claresholm, as announced elsewhere, had changed the position of his desk) would agree with certain of his arguments.

BROWNLEE BELIEVES CONTROL PLAN THE BEST

The original draft, said J. E. Brownlee, contained what had appeared to him to be reasonable provisions for dealing with the matter. He had tried to divorce himself from his own personal views on the liquor question, and decide what was the best way to make effective a Government control bill. His own and the Commissioner's view was that canvassing should be prohibited absolutely, as it would be, and also all forms of billboard advertising. But if there were legalized sale, then price lists and circulars would be sent through the mails, and these could not be stopped. He was not prepared to say that a prohibition of advertising could be sustained in the courts. An act to prohibit betting advertising in Ontario had been declared ultra vires. The papers, however, while they might challenge the legality of a prohibition, were prepared to submit to control. It must be considered whether absolute prohibition of newspaper advertising would not encourage the dumping of circulars through the mails.

"It might be," said the Attorney-General, referring to legislation in a general way, "that some legislation for Government control may lead to a solution of the liquor problem." The effect of newspaper support in an effort to make the new plan a success must be considered. Commission control of advertising would reduce to a minimum the danger that advertising might increase sales.

Expressing appreciation of Mr. Brownlee's sincerity and fairness, Mrs. McClung said she had enough confidence in the newspapers to know that they would not attempt to jeopardize the success of the act if they did not get what they wanted. Not a single speaker in the recent campaign had advocated increased drinking, yet advertising was pointless unless it were intended to increase sales.

The vote was then taken, and the original clause adopted by a large majority, "Archie" Matheson greeting the announcement with the exclamation, "How are the mighty fallen!"

The vote was checked as closely as possible, but as there was little time to take



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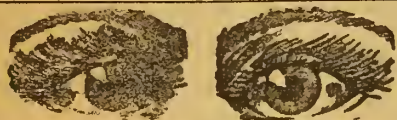


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For the Matheson motion: Messrs. Claypool, Matheson, Enzenauer, Sanders, Peterson, Carson, Buckley, Pearson, Mrs. Parlyb, Mrs. McClung, G. N. Johnston, Stringam.

Against: Messrs. Greenfield, Brownlee, Reid, V. W. Smith, Baker, Forster, Proudfoot, G. W. Smith, W. C. Smith, Cook, Boyle, Mitchell, Cross, Stewart, Milnes, Dechene, Marshall, Heffernan, McLennan, Bowen, White, G. W. Johnston.

Messrs. Davidson, Shield, Ross and Hoadley did not vote. Messrs. Tobin, Christophers, Chornohus, Fedun, Conner, Sparks, Farquharson and Brown were not present.

Mrs. McClung moved to revert to clause 37, in order to introduce an amendment to change the Saturday closing hour for licensed places from 9 to 7 p.m. This was voted down. The breweries' license fee was changed from \$2,000 to \$1,500 on motion of Mr. Brownlee, it being pointed out that there were one or two small breweries whom the higher fee might place at a disadvantage.

C. W. Cross protested that the clauses making it an offense to have liquor in a car, or upon the person of a citizen, could not be enforced, and that the prohibition of the sale of beer by the bottle in licensed places would be broken.

Answering W. M. Davidson, the Premier stated that all possible data in connection with the Spray Lakes scheme were being gathered, prior to a decision.

Mr. Brownlee, on a point of privilege, called attention to a paragraph from the Calgary Albertan in which he was described as acting premier, at the Wednesday sitting of the Assembly, during Mr. Greenfield's absence, when the Clearwater bill was under discussion, and said that this statement was incorrect. He had also been stated in a front page headline to be "in revolt" against the bill. Whenever he was in revolt against the Government he would not remain where he was.

JOINT RESOLUTION ON NATURAL RESOURCES

A joint resolution of the U. F. A., Labor, Independent, Liberal and Conservative groups on the natural resources question was adopted unanimously by standing vote. It was as follows:

"1. That the Government should continue its negotiations with the Dominion Government for the immediate transfer to the Province of its natural resources.

"2. For the purpose of obtaining an immediate settlement of this important question, this House authorizes the Government to accept the offer of the Dominion Government to transfer to the Province its natural resources on the basis of an accounting from 1905, subject to an agreement to be reached as to the terms of such accounting and the terms of the transfer; provided, however, that the Government is further authorized to accept such fixed sum to be paid by the Dominion to the Province, in lieu of such accounting, as it shall consider adequate after a further consideration of the probable result of such accounting."

The bill to provide a weekly rest day for members of permanent fire departments was defeated.

A bill to amend the Co-operative Credits Act was given second reading. The bill provides for the setting up of a sinking fund. Space is limited, but it may be possible in a later issue to describe the amendments more fully.

Assembly Concludes Business; Prorogues SATURDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, April 12.—At 10 o'clock this evening the Legislature was prorogued by the Lieutenant-Governor, at the close of a session, which, while for the most part, though not entirely, lacking in the sensational insincerities which were the stock-in-trade of political controversy in now historic periods in Provincial history, accomplished a great deal of useful legislation, full opportunity being given for discussion and criticism. Several of the acts which bear directly upon the farming industry have been dealt with at some length, in "The U. F. A." Four-fifths of the legislation, however, affects the welfare of agriculture in one form or another. The new Election Act, as Alex. Ross, the Minister in charge, stated in the Assembly, will not be proclaimed for the present. The intention of the Government, he said, was to obtain the best possible legislation, giving due weight to criticism and suggestions, and it is probable that further amendments will be considered at the next session of the Assembly. In the meantime it is expected that such matters as the

election deposit will be considered very carefully in the constituencies. Few members of the Assembly have attempted to make political capital of this measure, and the Government, said Mr. Ross, desired that it should be considered entirely on its merits.

Mr. Brownlee's statement on the Wheat Pool legislation is given in a separate article. Discussion of the statute law amendments, 55 in number, occupied a great part of the day. For the most part these involve technical or other minor changes in existing acts, but some are of more than ordinary importance. Lack of space prevents an adequate summary being given in this issue.

CLEARWATER BILL IN FINAL STAGE

The bill to eliminate Clearwater constituency was carried, there being little further discussion. An amendment was made in committee, adding to Lac Ste. Anne the portion which it was originally intended to add to Edson. C. W. Cross had stated that owing to the difficulty of reaching this portion of the constituency, which was almost uninhabited, it was undesirable to include this territory in Edson. After a careful study of the matter, Premier Greenfield decided that Mr. Cross' objection was well taken. Captain Pearson asked the Government to withdraw the bill. He was not familiar, he said, with the physical nature of the territory. J. W. Heffernan, Liberal (Edmonton), moved that the clause validating the new boundaries of constituencies be struck out. This was defeated by an "Aye" and "No" vote.

THE PRINTING OF RETURNS

Most of the afternoon session was devoted to a debate, launched by C. R. Mitchell, on the printing committee's report recommending the printing of a small number of returns. Mr. Mitchell complained that a large number had been left out, and the returns "locked away in a safe away from the public", A. M. Matheson replying that the member was at liberty to print a million copies of his own certified copy if he wished, and stating that any which had news value would gladly be used by the newspapers, and that the Medicine Hat News would no doubt be willing to publish any that the member for Bow Valley wished to see in print. The Assembly divided on a motion to adopt the committee's report, which was carried. There was a fairly strong opinion among U. F. A. members, however, that none of these returns, which are available to the press, should be printed. W. M. Davidson said that more public money had been wasted in the past on the printing of documents which nobody read, than on anything else, but favored publication in this instance.

Speaking on a suggested amendment to the Co-operative Credits Act Amendment bill, which would have made members personally liable for debts, Mr. Brownlee said the bill might as well be dropped if this were adopted.

TAXES ON LEASES AND OWNED LAND

Perren Baker, in discussion of statute law amendments, said, with reference to Mr. Mitchell's complaint that taxes on grazing leases were onerous, that they were still more onerous on owners of farm land. A leaseholder paid \$9.60 in school taxes, in cases where the owner of a section would be called upon to pay \$89.

Electoral History of Clearwater

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| 1913—McKinney (L) | 40 |
| Taylor (C) | 39 |
| Clark (I) | 24 |
| Total | 103 |
| 1917—Dr. State (L) | 138 |
| R. M. Frith (C) | 104 |
| Total | 292 |
| 1921—Dr. State (L) | 234 |
| O. T. Lee (I) | 147 |
| R. G. Campbell (C) | 117 |
| S. W. Chambers (F) | 60 |
| Total | 558 |
| Federal Election—December, 1921 | |
| 1921—Kennedy (U. F. A.) | 241 |
| Campbell (C) | 102 |
| Oliver (L) | 74 |
| Total | 417 |

Distance from the south eastern portion of Clearwater where there is settlement, to the other settled portion in the north western part of the constituency—90 miles by road, 348 miles by rail. Total of 439 miles. The constituencies of Pincher Creek and of Redcliff are by road and rail nearer to Clearwater than the one portion of Clearwater to the other.

LIVESTOCK

1924 BOOKLET GIVES VALUABLE HINTS and complete list of livestock and veterinary supplies, animal markers, ear tags, vaccines, medicines, instruments, etc. Write today. It's free. Winnipeg Veterinary & Breeders' Supply Co., Ltd., Calgary, Alta.

SELLING ENTIRE HERD OF THIRTY-five registered Aberdeen-Angus cattle, by private sale. L. McComb, Huxley, Alta.

CLYDESDALE STALLION, SEVEN YEARS, guaranteed, sure foal getter. For sale or trade for young heavy stock. Apply, Prowse, Cluny.

SWINE

YORKSHIRES, PURE BRED, FOUR months. Mrs. H. P. Domoney, Penhold, Alta.

REGISTERED YORKSHIRE BOAR, TWO years, for sale or trade for one about same age. J. Baldwin, Wastina, Alta.

TAMWORTHS—NEW BLOOD FOR ALBERTA. Booking orders for May delivery pigs. Saskatchewan University sows bred to boar selected from Ontario grand champion herd. Government inspected and approved bacon type, \$20. Lyle's Tamworth Farm, Gleichen, Alta.

POULTRY AND EGGS

HATCHING EGGS — FROM SELECTED pen, pure-bred, Barred Rocks, Clyde strain, \$2.50 per fifteen. Mrs. Kamer Zaworski, Vilna, Alta.

BARRED ROCKS; PEKIN AND ROUEN duck eggs that will win at your fair; \$3.00 setting. A. E. Simpkins, Leduc, Alberta.

EGGS—PURE-BRED BRONZE TURKEY 20c; Toulouse goose 25c. Mrs. Walter, Tees, Alberta.

EGGS—SINGLE COMB WHITE LEGHORNS. Hens have trap-nest record of 179 in pullet year. Cockerels are by an imported Hollywood cock, his dam being a 289 hen and sire from a 304 hen; \$2.00 fifteen. W. H. Goodwin, Gleichen.

PURE-BRED SILVER LACED WYANDOTTE eggs, \$2.00 for 15. Pure-bred White Wyandotte eggs, \$2.00 for 15. John Sollman, Chipman, Alberta.

DARK BARRED ROCKS EXCLUSIVELY—Hatching eggs from pens carefully selected for utility and exhibition, \$2.00 and \$3.00 per setting. Mrs. Roy Vold, R.R. No. 1, Ponoka, Alta.

BRONZE TURKEY EGGS FROM PRIZE winning stock, 75c each, April delivery; May 50c. Pure-bred Toulouse goose eggs from mature stock, 50c. Have taken championships and firsts for my turkeys and geese past five years at Edmonton. Mrs. J. W. Cookson, Tofield, Alta.

EGGS FOR SETTING FROM PURE-BRED Rose Comb Brown Leghorns; good laying strain; \$1.50 for 15. A. McCready, Erskine, Alta.

HATCHING EGGS — MARTIN'S WHITE Wyandottes, \$1.00 for 15. Bronze turkeys, 35c. Toulouse geese, 35c. All from selected pure bred stock. R. Gould, Bittern Lake.

TRIO SPECKLED SUSSEX, \$10.00 TRIO. Pencilled Wyandottes, \$8.00. Seven long distance Homer pigeons, \$5.00. Fitchett, 3512 15a Street West, Calgary.

EGGS FOR HATCHING—BARRED ROCKS, White Wyandottes, Buff Orpingtons, \$1.50. Pen Anconas, cock, eight hens, \$10.00. Pen Barred Rocks (Gould's strain) \$12.00, cockerel, eight pullets. Bronze turkey hens, \$3.00. Turkey eggs 20c each. W. G. Gunn, Irma, Alta.

WHITE WYANDOTTE HATCHING EGGS from heavy laying Government selected females, mated to cockerels from John S. Martin's best "Dorcas" matings, from hens with records from 200 to 267. Price \$3.00 for 15. Eggs from "Dorcas" pullets, mated to "Dorcas" cockerels. Price \$4.00 for 15. Satisfaction guaranteed. J. A. Larson, Fort Saskatchewan, Alta.

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COLUMNS

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BEAUTIFUL BUFF ORPINGTON COCKERELS, pure bred, good type and color; grand laying strain. Price \$5.00 each. Neil MacFarlane, Youngstown, Alta.

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BRED TO LAY BUFF ORPINGTONS—Pen No. 1, selected by Government poultry representative, mated with trap nested cockerel, Filbasket strain, \$2.00 for 15 eggs. Pen No. 2, mated with exceptionally good cockerel, \$1.50 for 15. These birds are real producers. Reference: G. M. Cormie, Dominion poultry representative. Mrs. P. C. Loree, Nan-ton, Alta.

ROSE COMB WHITE LEGHORN COCKERELS, \$2.00 each. John Tough, Islay, Alta.

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TURKEYS AND EGGS, \$3 DOZEN; SINGLE comb Anconas, \$1.50 setting, from prize layers. Box 1751, Calgary.

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IRRIGABLE FARMS FOR SALE OR RENT.

You can farm profitably on irrigable land in Southern Alberta because the soil is fertile, the water supply is ample and the climate is favorable. Therefore crops are sure. All kinds of livestock thrive. Whole or partly irrigated farms can be bought at prices ranging from \$12 to \$30 per acre, plus irrigation costs, or can be rented on favorable terms with an option to purchase later. Near towns, railways, markets, schools. Get further information from the IRRIGATION COUNCIL OF ALBERTA, 117 Provincial Building, Lethbridge.

WILL EXCHANGE FARM, SEVEN MILES north west of Tofield, value \$1,600, for car, improved town or city property, cattle or horses. For particulars apply R. W. Pincott, Tofield, Alberta.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SCOTCH COLLIE PUPS, BEAUTIES; males \$10.00; females \$8.00; pedigree included. S. R. Northwood, Coronation, Alta.

SEED GRAIN

SELLING LIBERTY HULLESS OATS, OT-tawa 400, cleaned, per bus. 80 cents; 10 bus., \$7.00. Sacks extra. Ellerby Bros., Throne, Alta.

TIMOTHY SEED, CANADIAN GOVERNMENT standard 2nd grade. Free of primary noxious weeds. Germination 100% in ten days. (In overlooking hulled seeds it is No. 1 for purity). Price \$13.00 per 100 lbs. A liberal discount off for club orders amounting to ten hundred lbs. or more. For quick delivery apply to Allan Carswell, the L. B. R. store, Lundbreck, Alta., who is my agent. For seed growing sow 3 lbs. to the acre. J. R. Lane, Lundbreck, Alta.

HULLESS OATS, 4 CENTS PER POUND. Cloverset Farm, Edmonton.

CLOVERLEA SEED AND STOCK FARM, 8820 111th Street, Edmonton, offers the genuine Atlaswede Red Clover seed, Alberta University strain; tested successfully seven years; recommended seeding in row 18 inches apart, 5 lbs. acre. \$1.00 pound. Dr. E. W. Allin, 8820 111th St., Edmonton.

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WONDERFUL PROLIFIC PRAIRIE Flower potatoes, \$1.00 per bushel; five \$4.00; ten \$7.00; twenty \$13.00. Yield nearly double other varieties. Why plant acre when half is all you need? Plenty moisture and cultivation yield 300 to 400 bushels per acre. Howes & Sons, Millet, Alta.

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LATHAM RASPBERRY PLANTS, 60c PER dozen; \$2.00 for 50, postpaid. John Sibbald, Heathdale, Alta.

OUR NURSERY STOCK IS QUITE AT home in this country. The trying climate does not affect our stock for it is grown on the open prairie at Brooks, Alberta. Write us for particulars on Trees, Hedging, Shrubs, Fruits, etc. Plant our guaranteed stock. Write Western Nursery Co., 621 Fifth Ave. W., Calgary.

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FOR SALE—TAMARAC FENCE POSTS, standard size, 7c. Tamarac pickets, 6½ foot, 3 to 1½ inch top, 3c. Spruce corral poles, 10c.; f.o.b. Junkins, C. N. R. A. Oslund, Junkins, Alta.

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J. A. LARSON.

Fort Saskatchewan, March 29, 1924.



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